THE TIMES

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THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Courses for horses
A spectator's guide to three-day eventing
Ulster culture
Peter Lennon on the upsurge in poetry in Northern Ireland
The Mersey beat
Will Liverpool and Everton meet in the Cup final?
High and dry
Jane MacQuitty on the best – and worst – of airline wines
Debt collecting
What to do if your bank owes you money

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £4,000 (double the usual £2,000 because no-one won on Wednesday) was shared by three winners. Mrs Bridget Jaggard of Bristol, Mr Michael Riordan of Trowbridge, Kent, and Dr J Williams of Chislehurst, Kent, each received £1,333. Portfolio list, page 20; how to play, Information Service, back page. Tomorrow £42,000 is available to be won. The weekly prize of £20,000 is doubled because it was not won last week, and there is also the usual daily prize of £2,000.

£17m cut in pay for BAOR

British servicemen in West Germany are facing big cuts in their take-home earnings after a decision to reduce their local overseas allowances. The Ministry of Defence is expected to save £17 million a year as a result Page 4

Grim welcome

Mrs Thatcher arrived in Sri Lanka on the fifth stop of her seven-nation Asia tour. Earlier 24 people, including four policeman, died in an attack by Tamil rebels Page 5

Pay campaign

Civil Service union leaders met Treasury officials to press for a better pay offer, in spite of votes against industrial action Page 2

Shuttle hitch

A leaking biological processing machine may force the Discovery space shuttle mission to abandon one of its most important experiments when it blasts off today
Senator's trip, page 8

£1.4m bequest

A bequest worth more than £1.4 million to the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff includes more than 100 paintings by leading twentieth-century British artists
Other wills, page 16

Israeli killed

As the Israelis withdrew from the Nabatiya area of Southern Lebanon an Israeli major was killed further to the east when his Jeep ran over a mine. Another Israeli soldier was wounded Page 6

N-ships denial

The State Department categorically denied reports that the United States had promised China to send a non-nuclear ship on a planned ceremonial port visit Chinese claim, page 8

England's party

England named 23 of the 26 Rugby Union players who will tour New Zealand in May and June Page 21

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David Hart: don't give in on pit closures now; Blacks turn on blacks in South Africa; Negligent solicitors; Profile of Benazir Bhutto; Korem: story of an Ethiopian refugee camp.
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Gorbachov's aim is to split Nato, declares Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan yesterday accused the Soviet Union of trying to incite and exploit differences between the US and its European allies in an attempt to undercut Nato attempts to strengthen its nuclear and conventional defences.

In an interview with *The Times* to mark the newspaper's bicentenary, he said that the call by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the new Soviet leader, on the United States to join a Soviet moratorium in the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe was part of Moscow's propaganda campaign aimed at decoupling the US from its Nato allies.

President Reagan said he was "struck by how disingenuous was the Soviet propaganda campaign against his "Star Wars" strategic defence initiative research programme.

He pointed out that the Soviet Union possessed the world's only operational anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system and was pursuing an extensive research programme into ballistic missile defence counter to the 1972 ABM treaty.

"Our allies know the truth", he declared. "We have consulted closely with them on the nature and purposes of SDI. They know that it is a research programme designed to provide the technical basis that would allow a future president to decide whether to develop advance systems to defend against ballistic missiles."

In a wide ranging interview, the President, who has invited Mr Gorbachov to meet him, said he would look on a US-Soviet summit as an "opportunity to clear the air and express our desire to have a relationship that would eliminate this great (nuclear) threat that seems to hang over the world."

But he expressed doubts that such a meeting could be a "turning point" in relations between the superpowers. Noting the collective nature of the Soviet leadership, he said: "I can't see that . . . there would be a great change of direction" in Soviet policy just because of Mr Gorbachov's accession. "It would only come about if that was the desire of the Politburo."

The President's remarks came as top advisers signalled a sudden switch in the US approach to summit meetings.

Mr Robert McFarlane, the President's national security adviser, said that Mr Reagan was now ready to hold an informal meeting to become acquainted with Mr Gorbachov, to be followed by the carefully prepared summit Mr Reagan has always insisted on.

The getting-to-know-you meeting could take place during the 40th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the UN General Assembly this autumn.

The President's condemnation of the Soviet moratorium was backed by Mr Paul Nitze, his chief arms control adviser, who said that a corresponding freeze on the deployment of US cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe would be "an asinine way to negotiate" at the Geneva arms talks.

Mr Nitze, who led the US team during previous intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) negotiations, said the new Soviet move "walks back" from the Soviet position in 1983. At that time Moscow was willing to have only 120 SS20 missiles in Europe while freezing its 110 SS20s in the Far East.

Under the new moratorium Moscow would have 414 SS20s overall, about two-thirds of which are aimed at West European cities.

In his interview, President Reagan emphasized that he would not make unilateral concessions to get a quick agreement in Geneva, nor be subjected to artificial deadlines for one.

But the US was prepared to negotiate "for as long as necesy", he said.

The complete range of US-Soviet relations will be discussed by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, in Vienna on May 14. Mr Shultz has called back Mr Arthur Hartman, the US Ambassador to Moscow, for consultations in preparation for that meeting.

The President's longest answer dealt with his new Nicaraguan peace initiative, which he urged the leftist Sandinista Government to accept for the sake of peace in their own country and in Central America as a whole".

Gorbachov impresses, page 6

In praise of Star Wars, strong dollar and UK link
– Back page

Mr Scargill putting a brave face on defeat yesterday.

NUM accepts 10% pay rise package

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The bitter conflict in the coal industry moved to a close yesterday when miners' leaders accepted outstanding wage increases and a new colliery review procedure that will permit closures on economic grounds.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, put a brave face on his union's provisional agreement with the National Coal Board, but the miners have made the concessions that the Government was looking for.

Union negotiators will next week recommend acceptance of a cumulative 10.68 per cent wage increase backdated to November 1, 1983. The union will also discuss setting up a modified colliery review procedure with other mining unions and the board.

Mr Scargill insisted that the miners would continue to oppose pit closures, and the establishment of a third-party appeal procedure was a positive step towards retention and expansion of coal capacity.

He sidestepped questions about becoming involved in uneconomic closures, but the October 23, 1984 deal between the NCB and the pit deputies, to which the miners will become signatories, makes clear that the future of each pit will depend on "both market and production opportunities".

The union has nominated Mr Scargill and its general secretary, Mr Peter Heathfield, to sit on a working group to establish the final appeal procedure, which will be able to take evidence and pass a verdict on individual colliery closures. But the board will have the final say.

A taste of how the board will operate was given yesterday when its deputy chairman, Mr James Cowan, rejected protests from the pit deputies' union, Nacods, and confirmed that management will continue to process the shutdown of mines judged to have been irretrievably damaged by the year-long strike.

The board is moving ahead with the closure of Bedwas in south Wales, Frances in Scotland. Last week, it added Ackton Hall in North Yorkshire to the list of collieries that will not be reopened.

In its latest edition of *Coal News*, the board's newspaper, managers say there are 71 faces at risk even though the men have been back at work more

Continued on page 2, col 5

Vietnam loans ended by IMF

From Bailey Morris Washington

The International Monetary Fund has declared Vietnam ineligible for any more funds and may soon take similar action against Nicaragua. These moves could lead to expulsion of the two leftist nations from the 148-member organization.

Both Vietnam and Nicaragua, faced with rapidly deteriorating domestic economies and rising political problems, are attempting to maintain their links with the IMF to retain some flow of outside funds to their countries. Both are deeply in arrears to the IMF on payments of principal and interest.

The IMF has taken the drastic action of expulsion only three times in its 38-year history when the board decided, by the required vote of more than 70 per cent, to expel, for different reasons, Czechoslovakia, Cuba and France.

The IMF also face a crucial decision on how to proceed against several drought-stricken African nations which are deeply in arrears on billions of dollars of interest and principal payments.

Under its guidelines, the IMF may be forced to pull out of African nations suffering from widespread drought and starvation, unless Western governments agree to relax the rules or greatly increase aid levels, sources said.

Sudan could soon be declared ineligible for future funds because it is in arrears on $110 million "in interest" and principal payments on total debt of about $700 million.

But no action has been taken against Sudan because of the strong desire of the United States and Saudi Arabia, two of the IMF's biggest contributors, keep the nation afloat, according to a high level source.

Some US officials have accused the IMF of contributing to the overthrow of former Sudanese President Gafaar Nimeiry last week by taking a tough line in demanding repayment of overdue funds.

But IMF officials, expressing shock at the accusation, said that under present guidelines and to maintain the fund's credibility in the eyes of debtor nations, the organization has little choice but to demand repayment.

The African question is likely to dominate the joint meeting next week of the IMF and the World Bank.

If present guidelines remain in effect, the IMF must either demand that countries meet their repayment schedules or halt future lending in an action that could trigger large defaults by African nations, including Zambia and Liberia which in are arrears.

The big industrialized nations must decide whether to increase aid levels to Africa or relax guidelines

Teachers to act on size of classes

By Richard Garner of *The Times* Educational Supplement

Delegates to the National Union of Teachers' conference yesterday gave the all-clear for their members to refuse to teach oversized classes in line with the union's policy of seeking a national agreement limiting classes to a maximum of 27 pupils.

The move, which is aimed at reducing class sizes but could lead to more children being sent home, was put forward by the union's Barnet branch, which includes the Prime Minister's constituency of Finchley. Mr Richard Pietrasik said teachers were reluctant to take action because they felt the union would not support them.

Mr Barrie Frost, from Devon, said that in his authority there were classes of 40 "and in one case a class of 52". He added that this was because Devon did not fund schooling for children approaching the age of five but head teachers and governors were still admitting them. "We have to put up with it," he added.

Ms Sarah Veitch, from east London, said she knew of between three and 400 children who were permanently out of school because there were no primary school places for them. Most of them, she said afterwards, were Bengali-speaking.

The Inner London Education Authority confirmed her comments but added that it was building three new primary schools in the Whitechapel area and converting the Robert Motefiore secondary school into a primary school.

Negotiations with the Department of Education and Science had led to an agreement to build smaller classrooms and limit class sizes to 25 pupils.

Mr Malcolm Horne, for the union's executive, which opposed the motion, said: "This policy would isolate individual members in individual schools. I don't know why the areas who have complained haven't come to the union's action committee and asked for permission to take action. They would have been given it."

He added: "If one school in one area is totally isolated from any other school and takes action, it might be one single individual teacher that ends up taking that action."

However, the motion, which instructed the executive to sanction action in schools and union branches where there was two-thirds majority in favour of refusing to teach oversized classes, was agreed overwhelmingly. The motion also called on the executive to mount a campaign aimed at persuading parents about the benefits of its policy.

Tory councils hit, page 2

Spanish pilots list 'dangerous' airports

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

The controversy over the safety of Spanish air space grew yesterday with the revelation that the Spanish Airline Pilots Union is preparing a report, listing 15 of the country's airports as "dangerous" or "very dangerous".

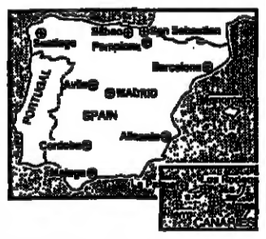
The faults include airports with missing or inaccurate navigation aids and runways which are poorly marked and badly laid-out.

Details of the pilots preliminary findings appeared in the weekly news magazine *Tiempo* as air traffic controllers in Madrid gave the Government a 48-hour ultimatum to attend to their complaints about "unsafe" air traffic conditions or face a walk-out.

Seven airports are labelled "very dangerous": Malaga, Madrid, Bilbao, and San Sebastian on the mainland, and Los Rodeos (North Teneriffe), Los Palmas and Hierro in the Canaries.

The Minister of Transportation and Communications, Señor Enrique Baron, accused the pilots of "irresponsibility".

A spokesman for the British Airlines Pilots Association, Captain Alasdair Liddle, vice chairman of the technical committee, said last night: "Over the past decade and a half there have been big improvements at Spanish airfields and in radar, and the standard is now quite high at international airports in Spain."



'Alicante is impossible'

According to a pilot's union spokesman quoted in *Tiempo*, the faults include:

Malaga: "Should not be open in its present condition" because navigation aids are out of service. Runway 14 is not equipped with an instrument landing system (ILS).

Madrid: The ILS leading to Runway 33 at Barajas Airport, gives an incorrect descent pattern. Runway 19 is dangerous in bad weather.

Bilbao: Difficult terrain, and illegal structures in the landing path make Sondica Airport dangerous.

San Sebastian: Not equipped with navigation aids. Runway 04 is operative only in "exceptional" weather. Runway 22 is too close to a mountain.

Lost Rodeos (northern Tenerife): Frequent very dangerous turbulence. Frequently under cloud cover. Pools of water form on the runway. Runway 12 not equipped with ILS.

Gierro (Canary Islands): Airport has too short a runway.

Alicante: ILS on Runway 11 has been out of service for a year because of repair work. Landing manoeuvre described in charts is impossible.

Barcelona: Runways at Prat Airport form an "X", a dangerous lay-out. Intersection between Runways 07 and 02 not properly marked. ILS not installed on Runway 2 or 2.5, and east-west orientation limits visibility in the late afternoon.

Pamplone: Airport located in difficult terrain. Pilots think it should be moved.

Menorca: Lack of ILS makes landing difficult in bad weather.

Film helps to save children

"Say no to strangers" is the theme of a nationwide campaign by the Home Office warning children to fend off the unwanted attentions of adults.

The campaign, which has an added urgency in school holidays and during longer summer evenings when youngsters are more vulnerable to approaches by strangers has been running for five years.

One measure of its effectiveness is that the number of sex offences against children aged under 16 has stayed stable. In 1983 there were 2,600 prosecutions.

The campaign operates on two levels, reminding adults to stop and ask themselves where their children are, and directly on the children. Games, bookmarks, and painting contests are used to put over the message, but it is the films which have captured children's imaginations.

Punch and Judy, two old favourites, are used in one. Punch is seen being lured into a car driven by the wicked Alligator, and is only saved at the last minute by the arrival of Pc Plod. All the while the children in the audience are encouraged to shout

The campaign is run primarily through schools. According to Supt Philip Vetar, director of National Crime Prevention: "There are few youngsters in the country who have not had a talk from police or seen the films".

Ultimately, however, the responsibility was with parents, he said. "Parents should warn youngsters of strangers, that they should not linger or talk to them, that they shouldn't accept sweets from them, or, least of all, go with them".

Supt Vetar said that the figures showed boys were more at risk than girls in abduction cases, possibly "because parents are more careful in what they allow girls to do".

Leading article, page 15

Albania's Stalinist ruler dies

Mr Enver Hoxha, Albania's veteran leader and Stalin's most faithful East European disciple, died yesterday after a heart attack. He was 76

Mr Hoxha was the longest serving leader of any communist country, having emerged in 1944 as leader of wartime resistance against the German and Italian occupying forces. During his long rule, he purged all those who challenged his policies

President Ramiz Alia, heads the funeral commission indicating that he is the intended successor of Mr Hoxha. Seven days of mourning have been declared for the dead party leader and flags are flying at half mast in Tirana. The funeral is set for Monday.

Smooth succession, page 6
Leading article, page 15
Obituary, page 16

Esso petrol up 5p to record price

By Robin Young

Esso raised the price of petrol by 5p a gallon at midnight last night bringing it to its highest level yet, 204.6p for a gallon of four-star at a typical Esso station.

The recent strengthening of the pound had taken the price of petrol back below the £2/level first breached by the Budget increase of 4p a gallon, but Esso said yesterday that since it reduced its price on March 28 the cost of petrol in bulk markets had again increased significantly.

Other oil companies are expected to follow the Esso lead, though some may wait until after the weekend. There will still be local variations in prices, with petrol stations adjusting their prices according to the strength of local competition.

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T/12/4

Howe's singing act distracts Czechs

From Roger Boyes Prague

Two senior British officials used Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit to Prague to meet secretly with representatives of the dissident Charter 77 Group, and discuss abuses of human rights in Czechoslovakia, it was revealed yesterday.

Sir Geoffrey, the British Foreign Secretary, admitted at a news conference before flying to Warsaw, that the officials had met "*informally with* a number of sympathizers and members of Charter 77" as well as a member of the unofficial Society for the Protection of the Oppressed.

The two officials were understood to be Mr Derek Thomas, an Under Secretary, and thus one of the most senior civil servants in the Foreign Office, and Mr John Birch, head of the Foreign Office East European Department.

Taking advantage of a gap in the official programme, the two men slipped away from the entourage to see the dissidents, whose names are being kept secret to prevent reprisals.

Sir Geoffrey was drinking with his counterpart, Mr Bohuslav Chnoupek, at the Seven Angels Tavern, a gypsy bar, at the time. The two officials' chairs remained empty for most of the session which included raucous singing by the entourages of "Good King Wenceslas" and, by Sir Geoffrey, of "Bread in Heaven" in Welsh.

Having held their discussions at a clandestine rendezvous in Prague, the officials returned unnoticed under cover of loud gypsy music. They passed a message to the Foreign Secretary, which in effect read: Mission accomplished.

Many prominent dissidents, including Mr Jiri Hajek, a former foreign minister, were kept under strict surveillance and had their movements restricted by secret police during the visit.

The Foreign Secretary did not personally meet Czechoslovak dissidents but he was expected to hold more elaborate discussions with Solidarity advisers in Warsaw today.

He was also scheduled to visit the church of St Stanislaw Kostka to pay homage at the grave of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the Solidarity priest murdered by secret police officers.

In Warsaw, Sir Geoffrey struck a slightly warmer note than in Prague, emphasizing the close historical links. But he took up the theme of the Polish dissident, Mr Jacek Kuron's article in *The Times* on Wednesday.

He stressed: "I would not be true to the friendship between our peoples if I did not tell you of my anxiety on reading reports of some recent moves in a contrary, that is nonconciliatory direction".

Sir Geoffrey was referring to signs of a new crackdown on dissidents and tightening of the penal code. He declared that all parts of the Helsinki accord should be respected, including those that deal with human rights.

Pope barred, page 5
Diary page 14

Stern warning by Shultz on trade barriers

Washington – Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, yesterday warned the United States and other trading nations not to revert to protectionism in the face of growing trade tensions (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Outlining a six-point programme of action for sustained global growth, Mr Shultz said: "Protectionism is not the remedy to an illness. It is itself an illness . . . protectionism keeps prices up, reduces living standards and stifles grants."

Mr Shultz's remarks were contained in a speech he delivered to Princeton University on the world econimic situation.

OECD discusses trade curbs, page 17

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Civil Servants press for better pay offer despite no-strike vote

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Civil Service union leaders met Treasury officials yesterday to press for an increase in the Government's 4.4 per cent pay offer to 500,000 white collar staff, in spite of union members' rejection of calls for industrial action.

General secretaries of the eight unions in the Civil Service met Mr Peter Kemp, deputy secretary at the Treasury with responsibility for pay, to argue that the ballot votes against industrial action also revealed a "deep discontent and malaise" among government employees.

They argued that about half the 200,000 workers who had taken part in ballots had voted in favour of industrial action, which union leaders saw as a substantial achievment in the light of the Government's attitude during the miners' strike.

A decision on whether to increase the offer, which seems likely, will await the Prime Minister's return next week from her Far East tour. It is understood that Mrs Margaret Thatcher has taken a close interest in this year's complicated pay negotiations.

Yesterday's meeting at the Treasury was the first time in the present round that all the unions had presented a common front. In the earlier stages of negotiation each had submitted its own claim and held separate meetings with government officials.

The executive of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation, which returned a 53 to 47 majority in favour of action, decided not to organize disruption next week and a similar decision is expected from a meeting today of the executive of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, which also won backing for industrial action.

Both unions have decided against action in view of the vote in the largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, which went narrowly against next Monday's planned one-day strike, to be followed by selective action in government offices.

Several unions favour pressing the Government to go to arbitration if there is no agreement on the pay offer, although ther are strong indications that ministers will, as they did last year, reject third party involvement.

Any improvement in the pay offer is likely to be only decimal points, but union leaders are hoping to be able to push it near 5 per cent. That is close to the settlement figure for a million local authority manual workers, whose increase is always used as a minimum target by the public service unions.

Mr Tom Roberts, of General Accident, with some of the cars awaiting recycling (Photograph: Chris Harris).

By Nicholas Rothwell

General Accident, Britain's leading motor insurance company, yesterday moved into the motor trade with the official opening of Auto Economics, an advanced vehicle parts reclamation plant.

At the new complex in Ashford, Kent, cars will be repaired for resale, or stripped of all undamaged parts.

Mr Tom Roberts, General Accident's United Kingdom general manager described the move as a logical step. General Accident was responding to Government concern that some vehicles written off by insurance companies, found their way back on to the road in unsafe condition.

In launching the scheme General Accident is taking a leaf out of the books of European insurance companies. The recycling of damaged auto parts is established practice on the Continent

General Accident, based in Perth, Scotland, hopes that the sale of reclaimed spare parts will, in the long term, help reduce claims costs, which are a big factor in the setting of insurance premium rates.

Irish paper in talks on launch of UK daily

By Colin Hughes

The Irish Independent, the Dublin newspaper group owned by Dr Tony O'Reilly, the former rugby international, has opened tentative talks with British publishers on launching a British national daily newspaper.

If the plans go ahead it will be the fifth large newspaper launch disclosed in recent months.

The Independent group has twice held meetings with East Midlands Allied Press to discuss the possibility of using its colour printing presses in Peterborough and Kettering to produce a tabloid aimed primarily at women. The proposal is for about 500,000 copies a day.

Mr Robin Miller, chief executive of East Midlands, said: "It is very early days yet for both us and the Independent. No detailed research has been done. We have simply considered possible ways of printing and distributing such a newspaper.

"I would say we are a very long way away from announcing anything firm."

The Independent group's chief executive, Mr Bartle Pitcher, was unavailable yesterday, but other executives in Dublin doubted that the company could raise enough funds for an early launch.

The management is locked in negotiations with print unions over scrapping its hot metal presses in Dublin, and sources said the company would loathe to announce any new venture until those talks are resolved.

The Independent group's plans follow a string of others.

Mr Eddy Shah, owner of Messenger Group Newspapers, is well advanced towards producing a national daily printed outside Fleet Street.

News International, owned by Mr Rupert Murdoch, plans to launch a London evening paper in the autumn.

Mirror Group Newspapers, owned by Mr Robert Maxwell, are also considering a London newspaper.

It was disclosed two days ago that Mr Clive Thornton, former Mirror Group chief executive, is planning a new Sunday national paper.

● Management of the *Express and Star* newspaper in Wolverhampton has made a final attempt to persuade 78 suspended print workers to return to normal working.

It has written to the men, members of the National Graphical Association, asking them to join 69 colleagues at work by Monday, or be dismissed.

The NGA last night declined to comment on the letter.

No-strike deal with Hitachi to remain

By Our Labour Correspondent

The controversial no-strike deal by the electrician's union Hitachi television plant in South Wales, has been given conditional approval by the TUC, in spite of objections from six other unions.

A TUC disputes committee has rejected a call by the six unions that the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union EETPU should scrap the single union agreement which makes a strike almost impossible at the Japanese company's plant at Hirwaun, Mid Glamorgan.

Since it signed the Hitachi deal last year, the EETPU has incurred the wrath of some unions by presenting it as a model to other employers where it has made similar deals. Mr Eric Hammond, the union's general secretary, said last night: "The TUC disputes committee decision is a clear recognition that the complaints against us were ill-judged and ill-founded."

But the committee was critical of the way the EETPU agreed the deal, without consulting other unions with members among the 1,200 strong workforce. It recommended that new employees should be told about their right to join another union; officials of other unions should be involved in grievance or discipline cases affecting their members; and the EETPU should consult with other unions through a representative body in the plant.

Mr Hammond said that the committee's findings "fully justify our agreement which we made to safeguard jobs for Hitachi employees, and to ensure that the plant did not shut or became non-union. We had the overwhelming support of our members for our action in a secret ballot vote".

The members of the disputes committee were Mr Jack Eccles, TUC chairman, Mr Eric Nevin, general secretary of the Merchant Navy officer's union, and Mr John Scott Garner, president of the telecom, engineers'

EETPU leaders said last night that most of the recommendations made by the committee had already been put into effect at the plant, and the union was taking steps to represent the interests of members of the other unions.

The electricians claim just over 700 members in the factory, and the union has said it would have been prepared to leave the TUC if steps were taken to outlaw its no-stike agreement.

Kinnock enters party cash debate

By Julian Haviland
Political Editor

Generous donations by Labour MPs to their constituency parties, to which Labour's Chief Whip, Mr Michael Cocks, is objecting, have been endorsed in broad terms by the party leader, Mr Neil Kinnock.

Last year Mr Terry Fields, Labour MP for Liverpool Broadgreen, wrote to Mr Kinnock saying that in the previous 12 months he had given his local party £1,000, and the party's national funds and the Labour Party Young Socialists £500 each, and would make similar payments this year.

His payments appear to be in breach of the undertaking which Mr Fields says he signed, in common with all Labour parliamentary candidates, at the time of his adoption to pay no more than £200 to his local party.

Mr Kinnock replied to Mr Fields, thanking him for giving details and adding: "I think it is an excellent practice and one that I have followed myself since I was elected".

A spokesman for Mr Kinnock said yesterday that his letter did not say that his contributions to his own Islwyn constituency party exceeded the £200 limit, and that was certainly not the case.

It is understood that Mr Kinnock, before his election as leader made a practice of meeting the costs of his travels out of his parliamentary salary and incidental earnings, and not charging the party.

Mr Fields said yesterday that he had observed the spirit of the 1933 agreement, as £1,000 was now worth much less than £200 then. It was not a lot of money as a contribution to the working class.

He said he resented Mr Cock's allegations that such donations constituted a bribe.

Teachers' pay dispute

Strike aimed at Tory councils

By Mike Durham, of *The Times Educational Supplement*

Fifteen Conservative-controlled English county councils have been selected for increased strikes next term by 10,000 members of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers. Up to 300,000 pupils will be affected.

The authorities will be named on Tuesday. Strikes will start in the new areas from April 17 and will be phased in over a week.

The union is holding selective strikes in 10 authorities and a total of 12,000 teachers will now be involved.

The union is also refusing to carry out supervision at lunchtime and after school and to cooperate with the new GCSE examinations.

Mr Fred Smithies, the union's general secretary, said: "The object is to tie in with the county council elections. We are thinking that at this time there is just the chance that people wih Conservative Party affiliations may be able to exercise powerful influence wih Sir Keith Joseph and his government colleagues.

"We aim to achieve maximum number of pupils sent home for the minimum of people coming out on strike".

Local action committees will call out individual members in select schools for short periods based on a complicated timetable intended to cause the maximum disruption in certain areas. The union is to reimburse teachers for lost income.

Revision classes for the summer GCE and A level examinations will be exempt from strikes.

The union is to meet the National Union of Teachers next week to discuss coordinated action.

All the unions on the teachers' negotiating panel are to meet on Wednesday.

They want a £1,200 pay rise. Local authorities have offered 4 per cent.

Vote to end lunchtime supervision

By Bert Lodge, of *The Times Educational Supplement*

The traditionally conservative Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, Britain's third-largest teacher union, yesterday took a cautious step towards militancy, when 600 delegates at the annual conference in Folkestone voted to withdraw from lunchtime supervision from next week.

But an amendment that would have committed the 95,000 members to boycott preparations for the new General Certificate of Secondary Education examination was defeated, although only after procedural deliberations lasting nearly two hours, which included two show-of-hands, two card votes, and a lobby vote. Proposers of the amendment saw it first adopted into the substantive resolution and then defeated when the substantive resolution was voted upon in parts.

A final twist lies in the fact that the union cannot in any case instruct its members. It can only constitutionally advise them.

The conference rejected three other amendments which would have hardened its position, and reaffirmed that it was still union policy to solve the current salary dispute through negotiation, or if this failed, arbitration.

In spite of this resolution to withdraw lunchtime supervision, several speakers argued that it was not inconsistent. "It reminds the employers that a lunchtime break for teachers should not be contractural anyway," Miss Doreen Jones, last year's president said.

Along with several speakers she condemned the strident approach of the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of School Masters Union of Women Teachers. The NUT was now about to imitate the Scottish teachers by calling three day-a-week strikes in the same schools.

Urgent talks sought

An urgent meeting of the management panel representing employers in the teachers' pay dispute is being sought by the Labour-dominated Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

The association's education committee discussed the dispute at its meeting yesterday. Afterwards Mrs Nicki Harrison, who is chairman of the committee said: "We were obviously very concerned about many aspects of the dispute. We are anxious that those who represent the management side get together early next week to discuss the situation. Things have been said in recent days apparently on behalf of the employers which certainly do *not* represent the views of many members of the management panel."

Mrs Harrison has written to Mr Philip Merridale, chairman of the management panel, who will decide whether and when the panel should meet.

Children who 'are not helped'

From Mike Durham of *The Times Educational Supplement*, Torquay

Thousands of handicapped children integrated into ordinary schools are being denied a proper education because the specialized staff and equipment they need are not available, it was alleged at a teachers' union conference yesterday.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers is advising its 127,000 members not to teach mentally of physically handicapped children unless their schools have adequate facilities for the job.

The union says that the Education Act 1981, which gave local education authorities the responsibility of integrating handicapped pupils into ordinary schools, is not working. Instead it has created a "cumbersome and bureaucratic" procedure which has resulted in schools being starved of funds.

Mr Brian Clegg, an executive member, told the annual conference in Torquay that a survey by the union showed that only a small proportion of local education authorities knew how many pupils with special needs were in schools or whether their requirements were being met, as the Act requires.

Other research suggests that a quarter of all pupils need special teaching or facilities at some time in their school career.

At the heart of the problem is the new system of notifying local authorities and the education department of children with handicaps, known as "statementing".

Bishop tilts at Thatcher criticism

By Rupert Morris

The Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev David Jenkins, dimissed his critics in forthright style yesterday as he signed copies of his republished book *The Contradiction of Christianity* at the London Book Fair. First published in 1976, it has been reprinted in 4,000 paperback copies.

He said the Prime Minister's description of him as "a cuckoo in the nest" was no more than "a political swipe", and he felt that if people read what he said more closely, they would understand him better.

His greatest regrets, he said, were that "people seem to have been worried into setting up a confrontation", and that he had been unjustly referred to as "doubting", whereas he would say that he was "questioning out of faith".

The bishop, who has rarely been out of the headlines since he attacked the Government's stance on the miners' strike, and suggested that there was no objective proof of the Resurrection, attracted renewed criticism recently when he was reported as saying that certain people should "get off their arses".

He said he did not care about popularity, and set greater store by the fact that he enjoyed a happy family life, and got on well with most church people in his diocese.

His forthcoming book, to be published next spring by SCM Press, under the title *The Dark Night of Our Institutions*, will include many of his current, highly controversial political views.

Letters, page 15

Bus top sliced by bridge

The top of a 14ft double-deck bus was sliced off by a railway bridge in Luton yesterday when the driver of the 757 Flight Line took a wrong turning on the route from Luton airport to London.

All the passengers were travelling downstairs. Two people were slightly injured and were taken to the Luton and Dunstable Hospital.

On watch: The Princess of Wales examining a 999 calls console with WPC Isobel Foster, when the Princess visited New Scotland Yard yesterday.

The Princess came close to being fingerprinted, but the idea was abandoned because she would get her hands dirty and the police were concerned that taking the fingerprints of a princess might breach protocol.

She was making her first visit to Scotland Yard and asked to see the Black Museum where exhibits from infamous crimes are displayed.

She showed a special interest in a display of weapons and guns used in the attempted kidnap of Princess Anne in the Mall, near Buckingham Palace, in 1974.

"I don't think she was frightened by what she was but she expressed apprehension" the museum's curator, Mr Bill Waddell, a retired policeman, said.

Year's jail for cruise protester

Mrs Anne Francis, a clergyman's wife, was jailed for a year yesterday after she was convicted of two offences of criminal damage at the Greenham Common cruise missile base last May.

Francis, aged 44, from Abergavenny, Gwent, was among a group of women who cut through a perimeter fence. She admitted twice cutting the fence with bolt cutters, but denied criminal damage.

She told a jury at Aylesbury Crown Court: "It was a righteous act, not an act of damage. My defence is that I cut the fence and will go on cutting the fence because what is happening at Greenham Common is wrong".

Conducting her own defence, she showed the jury a video film of the effects of the atomic bombs dropped on Japan in the Second World War.

The court was told that she had previous convictions for criminal damage and obstruction at the base and had gone to prison three times rather than pay fines.

Sentencing her, Judge Slack said she was "a consistent lawbreaker who, for your own honestly held beliefs I accept, is not prepared to accept that the law has to be obeyed."

New police complaints body for Ulster

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A new independent police complaints commission for Ulster is proposed in a government consultative document published yesterday. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland would have power to order it to investigate any incident involving the Royal Ulster Constabulary in public controversy.

Most of the proposed measures would bring Ulster practice into line with arrangements introduced in England and Wales under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. But policing the province is frequently controversial, and Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State, is proposing an additional power to order the commission to investigate incidents in which it appears that an officer might have committed a criminal or disciplinary offence, but which may not be the subject of a particular complaint. This is widely assumed to refer to disputed shootings and firing of plastic bullets.

Mr Hurd said: "There might be cases which do arouse a great deal of interest, controversy and commotion and which are not the subject of a specific complaint by an aggrieved person. The Secretary of State might think it was best to deal with the controversy by asking the commission to look into it rather than the thing chuntering on with all kinds of accusations without an end."

The proposals are seen as part of increasing efforts to promote Roman Catholic confidence in the forces of law and order.

Mr Hurd denied that either he or his officials had discussed any of the ideas with the Irish Republic's government. There would not be a place on the commission for anyone from Dublin. He hopes the new body will be set up by next year.

The membership of the new body will be crucial to its success and Mr Hurd said it would be a pity if representatives of the Roman Catholic community were not involved.

Under the proposals a new commission, which will replace the present police complaints board, will have a statutary duty to supervise the investigation of serious complaints against the police. In each case it supervises the commission will issue a certificate stating whether or not it is satisfied with the conduct of the inquiry.

Responsibility for investigations will remain with the police but the commission will be automatically informed of any complaint.

The Ulster Defence Regiment and British Army will not be covered by the proposals.

Jersey to approve kidney graft

The States of Jersey, the islands parliament, have been called into special session today to pass legislation allowing the kidneys to be taken from a road accident victim who is being kept alive until the law has been passed.

Jason Wright, aged 18 a hotel chef, was knocked down by a car early on Saturday and has been on a life support machine ever since. His parents have said that they want his kidneys to be used in a transplant operation, but although Jersey's States approved a law allowing organ transplants, this has not been finally ratified.

In what is believed to be an unprecedented move, the States have been recalled from the Easter recess

Theft claims exceed £300m

Insurance claims resulting from theft have more than trebled in the past five years, and in 1984 exceeded £300 million for the first time. The British Insurance Association said yesterday that claims last year totalled £320.4 million, up by more than a sixth over 1983.

Havers in Contempt Act talks

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Sir Michael Havers QC, the Attorney General, is to consult ministerial colleagues and the judiciary via the Lord Chancellor on ideas for reform of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 put forward by journalists and lawyers.

They came in a joint letter to Sir Michael from the British executive of the International Press Institute and the Criminal Bar Association after controversy over bans imposed on the reporting of criminal cases.

Sir Michael has been considering alleviating concern expressed in the letter to him, a reply from his office says.

Under section 4(2) of the Act courts have the power to order the postponement of reports of a trial, or parts of a trial, where that appears necessary to avoid a substantial risk of prejudicing the trial or other proceedings pending or imminent.

The letter from the Institute and Criminal Bar Association to Sir Michael complained that orders had been made under the Act without due consideration of the public interest.

Brittan drops review of light sentences

A government proposal for the review of lenient sentences is to be dropped. Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, is expected to tell MPs considering the Prosecution of Offences Bill, that he will accept the House of Lords view.

It rejected a proposal to allow the Court of Appeal to review lenient sentences but not overturn them.

Instead, Mr Brittan is considering whether to re-introduce the idea in a Criminal Justice Bill, reflecting public concern about seemingly light sentences for cases of violence, including rape. Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone the Lord Chancellor, is also convinced that a review is necessary.

BL denies blast at Cowley was sabotage

BL and the police have denied suggestions that the explosion at its Cowley plant on Wednesday was sabotage.

Gas board officials and factory inspectors yesterday examined debris in the area where Montegos and Maestros are prepared for motor shows.

Twenty six men were injured in the explosion. The most seriously hurt, Mr Leslie Lee, aged 50, from Wallingford, Oxfordshire, was yesterday in the intensive care unit at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford. He has head injuries.

The other worker still in hospital, Mr Peter Meakin, aged 38, from Prescot, Merseyside, was described as satisfactory. He also has head injuries.

Lax miners' bonuses at risk

By Craig Seton

Miners at three pits in north Derbyshire, who have been accused of not pulling their weights, have been given warnings by the NCB to work harder or face losing bonus payments.

Mr Ken Moses, NCB area director, has sent letters to about 1,300 miners working at the Renishaw Park, Highmoor and Whitwell mines telling them that their lack of effort is unacceptable.

He has given warning that apart from the possibility of losing bonus and other payments, development work at the collieries could be stopped.

Coal board officials claim that poor production at the three pits has been caused by "bolshiness" at the end of the miners' strike and that former strikers are largely responsible for not pulling their weight. The allegation, however, has infuriated the area NUM and branch officials at the collieries.

Production in north Derbyshire – where there are nine pits – has reached about 100,000 tonnes a week, about 40,000 below normal. Officials believe that it could be many months before production again reaches a peak as several coal faces are in poor condition and one at Warsop colliery could take six months to reopen.

The coal board and union officials appear to agree that generally there has been a normalization of work in north Derbyshire with few incidents of intimidation, although miners who were among the first to return to work are still taunted as "superscabs" and remain cold-shouldered at work.

NUM accepts 10% pay rise

Continued from page 1

than a month. Where there is no work because of lost faces, transferred to other pits or made redundant.

Management moves to shut strike-damaged collieries without putting them into the existing closure procedure or the new review machinery was sharply criticized by leaders of the deputies union yesterday. They are to call a delegate conference next Monday to test opinion, but industrial action, though often threatened, is not expected.

NUM-negotiators signified their acceptance of basic rate increases for about 170,000 miners, ranging from £4.90 to £6.80 a week for 1983-84. It was indicated that they will accept a second-leg deal, also of 5.2 per cent, giving increases of £5.15 to £7.15 a week for 1984-85.

The package will increase basic rates by 10.68 per cent to £104.15 for the lowest grade surface worker to £144.25 for the top-paid face man.

The union is holding out for consolidation into basic rates of a weekly £2.35 payment for bathing and changing time, which would improve overtime pay. But all its other demands for a shorter working week, improved "anti-social" hours allowances, a salaried basis for pay and protection of earnings for men compelled to give up lucrative underground work are likely to be dismissed.

The union added: "It should be remembered that we are only 12 weeks away from submitting a claim for 1985-86, and it would, therefore, seem sensible for the board and the union to agree on this occasion to a three-year wages deal."

Coal victory, page 14

The Times overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 29; Belgium B frs 50; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 170; Cyprus 70 cents; Denmark Dkr 9.00; Finland Mkk 8.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 120; Holland Gl 3.50; Irish Republic 40p; Italy L 2200; Luxembourg Lf 38; Madeira Esc 120; Morocco Dir 8.00; Norway Kr 8.50; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 125; Singapore $6.50; Spain Pes 170; Sweden Skr 8.50; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Tunisia Din 0.700; USA $1.75; Yugoslavia Din 150

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Romance of work abroad can turn into depression and break-up of family

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The stress of living and working abroad destroys marriages, causes mental breakdowns in both men and women, and can lead to anorexia nervosa in their children, according to a study of British expatriates.

Romantic notions of an exciting life in warm climates and exotic locations, with more money, servants and an instant circle of friends, are often crushed by depression, anxiety, isolation and unhappiness.

Fifty expatriates who were forced by psychiatric disorders to come home, have been studied by Dr Peter Dally, of the department of psychological medicine at the Westminster Hospital, London. They included 22 men, 17 wives, six working women, and five teenage girls.

Nearly a third collapsed in the first nine months of being abroad, and half became ill between nine months and four years of being away from home. Only a fifth became ill after four years away.

Marital troubles were the cause of 88 per cent of the breakdowns in wives; and it is the wife of the British businessman abroad who is most likely to suffer, Dr Dally saiys, in the *Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of London.*

"The expatriate-wife syndrome is probably a universal one, developing out of the emptiness and frustration of her life. Her husband is ambitious and successful, absorbed in his work, popular with his colleagues and in demand socially.

"She cannot work, either because she has small children, or is unable to obtain a work permit, or her husband says 'no' for fear of lowering his status.

"She feels isolated and unhappy. Her husband expects her support rather than vice versa. There are frequent rows. Their sexual relationship deteriorates. She may start an affair, attempting to boost her morale and attract his attention, but this is rarely helpful. "often when reduced to a state of despair and near collapse, she returns home with the children".

Some men and women who go abroad to work are emotionally insecure and lack confidence, but disguise these failings with their efficiency and drive at work, Dr Dally says. They become homesick and withdrawn, or seek the distractions of living hectically and beyond their means. Eventually they become liabilities and are sent home.

Half of the expatriates studied by Dr Dally were working and living in the Far East or Middle East, the others in Africa, South America, North America, Europe and Scandinavia. Some found the work itself an intolerable strain. "Negotiations with government representatives over concessions and agreements, particularly when prolonged and difficult, resulted in disabling anxiety," Dr Dally says.

Family tensions often lead to anorexia nervosa in adolescents. Five teenagers, all girls, were sent back to the United Kingdom suffering from the condition, and four of them came from unhappy families.

After the victims came home for treatment, 16 per cent of those who had jobs were dismissed and 31 per cent transferred to British-based work. Forty per cent returned to their jobs but more than half continued on medication. In 13 per cent of cases studied, the marriage ended.

Dr Dally says that most expatriates do not develop serious psychiatric problems abroad, and the lives of many are greatly enhanced.

"Afterwards, returning home for good can often be something of a let-down," he says. "It is then that their troubles can start".

Exotic cases for veterinary treatment

A tricky red-kneed tarantula

A slippery African house snake

An inquisitive leopard gecko (above) and a mysterious millipede (Photographs: John Voss).

The average veterinary practice is an expensive, sophisticated medical service, treating a range of species unthinkable a few years ago, Mr John Bower, president of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association, said yesterday.

Speaking in London on the eve of the association's twenty-ninth annual congress, Mr Bower said that his purpose-built veterinary hospital, in Plymouth, cost £6,000 a year in mortgage payments; offered X-ray, ultrasonic dental machines and cryosurgery facilities. Its recent patients included a marine iguana with a broken leg.

Although dogs and cats account for about 95 per cent of small animal veterinary work, most practices would come into contact with more exotic species with increasing frequency.

The association, whose 2,500 members represent about half of veterinary surgeons, is to publish a greatly expanded manual on the care of such animals.

The three-day congress will also hear what is believed to be the first-lecture on invertebrate veterinary medicine.

Four fined for bath indecency with baby

Four people were found guilty yesterday of gross indecency with a child. All four, including a former teacher, were fined £400 by magistrates at Felixstowe, Suffolk.

A woman who took photographs of the Boxing Day "orgy" and a nurse, aged 28, were found not guilty.

Supa Snap staff told the police after processing the film.

The court was told that a girl, aged 11 months, was involved in sexual activity with the accused in a large bath at a farmhouse.

The teacher, aged 32, his wife, the nurse, a company chairman aged 42, his wife, a former social worker aged 32, and a company director aged 34, stripped off and jumped in after a day of drinking champagne, port, wine and beer.

"It was nothing more than a stupid, drunken prank", the nurse said yesterday.

Her husband, said to be professionally ruined, said: "There were no thoughts of sex or horseplay in my mind. I was extremely drunk. I can't even remember the baby being in the bath. My mind was on drunken automatic pilot."

Mr Graham Parkins, representing the six, told the magistrates: "The fact of these proceedings, the enormous publicity and findings of guilt indicate that these defendants have suffered enough and will continue to suffer for a very considerable time."

Mr Parkins added that the teacher had resigned after the offence came to light, was unemployed and may have to sell his house.

The magistrates had made an order under section 39 of the Children and Young Persons Act, to prevent publication of material which might identify the child.

The chairman of the bench, who declined to be named for security reasons, had called for an investigation into reports in some newspapers naming the accused.

Smallpox hospital may be burnt

By Craig Seton

A West Midlands hospital where the world's last known smallpox victim died seven years ago may be burnt to the ground to ensure that any traces of the disease are eradicated.

The 10-bed Catherine-de-Barnes isolation hospital, Solihull, has been costing £40,000 a year to keep on "red alert" for smallpox victims, although the disease is regarded as eliminated worldwide.

Mrs Janet Parker, aged 40, died there seven years ago after contracting the disease while working as a medical photographer at the Birmingham University microbiology laboratory

Now the Department of Health has asked West Midlands regional health authority to close the hospital because it is no longer considered necessary. Officials are considering burning it, rather than demolishing it in the normal way, because of the possibility that traces of the disease could still be present.

Dr Christopher Ellis, consultant at the regional infectious diseases unit at East Birmingham Hospital, said yesterday: "There is some small possibility that viruses could have survived but I think it is very remote. If we do burn it down it will be as much to reassure the public as anything."

Helicopter puts out beer blaze

An RAF Chinook helicopter pilot and crew extinguished a blazing beer tanker on the eastbound hard shoulder of the M4 yesterday morning before the fire brigade could arrive, saving £7,000 of Whitbread's best bitter.

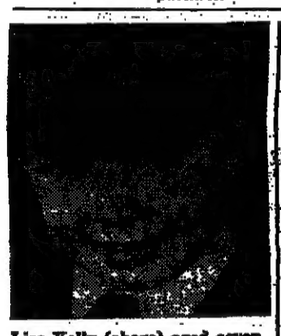
Flight Lieutenant Greg Potter, from RAF Odiham, Hampshire, was about 1,000 feet above the motorway, near the Leigh Delamare service station, Wiltshire, when he saw the flames.

Flight Lieutenant Potter said: "We flew straight back to Hullavington, which was less than a kilometre and a half away, loaded up with the biggest fire extinguisher we could find, and two ground crew. We were on the ground in less than 20 seconds."

An RAF spokesman said: "We train our pilots to make decisions. Flight Lieutenant Potter was worried about the danger of the black smoke billowing across the motorway and thought the tanker could explode."

The police said: "The motorway telephones were out of order and if they hadn't acted so promptly, it could have been far more serious."

Whitbread gave Flight Lieutenant Potter and crew a tour of its brewery in Magor, Gwent, and a barrel of beer afterwards.



Lisa Kelly (above) aged seven, whose body was found at Portadown, Co Armagh, on Wednesday.

George Hall, aged 23, of Obwa Avenue, Portadown, was remanded in custody by a magistrate at Lurgan to appear at Belfast Magistrates' Court on April 19 accused of her murder.

Path 'cost spinster £11,000'

A gang of five rogue tarmac layers deceived an elderly spinster into paying £11,000 for laying a gravel path to her bungalow, Oxford Crown Court was told yesterday. The job took the men a day and a half and could have been done for £624, Mr Richard Jenkins, for the prosecution, said.

Michael Joyce, aged 26, of the Slade Caravan Park, Headington, Oxford, pleaded not guilty to obtaining money by deception from Miss Millicent Powell, aged 66, of Cane Lane, Grove, Oxfordshire.

Mr Jenkins told the court that the defendent was one of the five men in a van marked "tarmac contractors" who approached Miss Powell in February 1983 and offered to tarmac her driveway. The others had not been apprehended, he explained.

Miss Powell, who lived alone, instead suggested that they gravel the path and clear her garden of two sheds. The work took a day and a half and was of a "disgracefully low standard," Mr Jenkins said.

Miss Powell used up nearly all her savings when she was presented with the bill for £11,350, and on one occasion Mr Joyce went with her to a bank to collect cash and a cheque. But she stopped one cheque for £8,000 because she was "perturbed" by the size of the bill.

Mr Joyce claimed in court that he cashed the cheques for his uncle, also Michael Joyce, who he said carried out the work for Miss Powell and had fled to Ireland. He said that he cashed the cheques as a favour. The trial continues today.

Monopoly study of British snuff industry

By Jeremy Warner

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is to look at the workings of the British snuff industry after a takeover attempt that threatens to reduce competition. The industry has an annual turnover of £3.8 million.

The Department of Trade and Industry said yesterday that it would investigate the planned £3 million acquisition by Imperial Tobacco of Permaflex, the Birmingham-based blender.

Imperial already owns about 60 per cent of the British snuff market after buying Illingworths, of Kendal in Cumbria, for £3.3 million last May.

Youth in court on Luke Cann killing charge

A youth appeared before Bristol juvenile court yesterday accused of the manslaughter of Luke Cann, aged seven. He was remanded into council care for seven days.

Luke Cann's body was recovered on Wednsday from the river Frome, at Bristol. He had been missing from his home in the city since Saturday. Avon and Somerset Police disclosed yesterday that a post-mortem examination showed he died from drowning.

At yesterday's hearing the youth was alleged to have unlawfully killed Luke Cann, of Mina Road, St Werburgh's, Bristol, on April 6. No application was made for bail.

JP accused

Brian Frank Lewis, aged 48, a magistrate at Petersfield, Hampshire, was yesterday remanded to Crown Court on six charges of stealing money from the Portsmouth and District Spastic Society. Portsmouth magistrates adjourned the case for four weeks and Mr Lewis was granted unconditional bail.

Studio fire

Simon Bates, the Radio 1 disc jockey, put out a fire in his waste-paper bin while broadcasting live yesterday. He felt hot and looking down saw the waste bin was alight.

PCs remanded on £1,000 bail

Two police constables, Andrew Gibson, aged 39 and Kenneth Rowley, aged 31, both based at St Albans Police Station, Hertfordshire, were granted bail of £1,000 yesterday by Hertford magistrates after appearing on charges of burglary.

They are accused of burglaries at Harperbury Hospital social club and Hill End Hospital social club. The hearing was adjourned until June 13.

Druids banned from Stonehenge

By John Young

From this year onwards, and after 80 years' observance, the Druids will be refused permission to hold their annual mid-summer solstice ceremony at Stonehenge.

The ceremony has fallen victim to the National Trust's determination to put a stop to the summer pop music festival because of the damage done to the site and the surrounding landscape.

Mr John Cropwell, the trust's regional director for Wessex, said the decision to ban the Druids, taken jointly with English Heritage, had been taken with great regret. But the solstice ceremony had become inseparable from the festival and it would be inequitable to exclude one group and not another.

For several years an accommodation had been reached with the festival organizers, but by last year, the scale of damage had become serious. As many as 30,000 people were estimated to be camped on trust land, some for as long as six weeks.

Bronze Age barrows had rubbish holes, latrines, and even a bread oven dug into them, motor-cycles were ridden over the burial ground, churning up the surface; fences were torn up; 1,000 young trees cut down for firewood and the building was attacked with a petrol bomb.

Most people at the festival presented no problem but it had become clear that it was attracting a violent and destructive element. This was increasingly threatening the facilities at Stonehenge and the enjoyment of thousands of ordinary visitors.

Dr Chris Young, principal inspector of archaeology for the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission, said yesterday that the whole area around Stonehenge was one of the most sensitve in Britain.

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30	34	2,128	1,121	1,234	4,483	2,128
35	39	2,123	1,119	1,231	4,473	2,123
40	44	2,111	1,112	1,224	4,447	2,111
45	49	2,089	1,101	1,212	4,402	2,089
50	54	2,061	1,086	1,195	4,342	2,041
55	59	2,034	1,072	1,180	4,286	1,912
60	64	2,012	1,060	1,167	4,239	1,670
65	69	1,975	1,041	1,146	4,162	1,422
70-79	74-79	1,975	1,041	1,146	4,162	1,166

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18-28	18-32	£5,492	£2,894	£3,185	£11,571	£5,492
30	34	5,489	2,893	3,184	11,566	5,489
35	39	5,476	2,886	3,176	11,538	5,476
40	44	5,445	2,870	3,158	11,473	5,445
45	49	5,388	2,839	3,123	11,352	5,388
50	54	5,319	2,803	3,085	11,207	5,266
55	59	5,250	2,767	3,045	11,062	4,935
60	64	5,198	2,739	3,015	10,952	4,315
65	69	5,107	2,691	2,962	10,760	3,678
70-79	74-79	5,107	2,691	2,962	10,760	3,014

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(c) Do you participate in any hazardous occupation or activity (such as private aviation or deep-sea diving)? YES ☐ NO ☐
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Abolition of juvenile courts and detention centres is called for by study group

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Juvenile courts should be replaced, a study group of the Association of Directors of Social Services said yesterday. The present system "no longer has the confidence of the public nor that of many of those who work within it."

It is accelerating more and more young people into ever harsher custodial regimes whose only effect is to turn out fitter young criminals, a report by the group says.

Detention centres, which are intended by the Government to give a "short, sharp shock" do not work and should be abolished, the report says.

Mr John Jillings, chairman of the study group, says that since 1965 there has been a five-fold increase in children receiving custodial sentences, with less than a fifth of the rise attributable to more offending. The remainder was caused by an increased tendency to give custodial sentences for almost all types of offence.

Yet the proportion of adult offenders committed to prison has declined.

The study group says there is evidence that penal policy is encouraging and confirming young offenders in criminal behaviour. More than 80 per cent of boys offended again within two years of release from Borstal.

Arguing that in general a court is not the right place to decide what to do with a juvenile offender, the report proposes the creation of non-judicial tribunals modelled on children's hearings in Scotland, although there would be differences.

In Scotland, hearings deal with proceedings to put a child into care if neglected or mistreated. In England and Wales the hearing would deal solely with alleged young offenders from the age of 12 up to their seventeenth birthday. Family courts would deal with under-twelves and with care proceedings.

A tribunal official, the Reporter, would decide which children would be brought before it and which dealt with in other ways.

In the case of grave alleged offences, police would make their reports to him and to the independent prosecutor who would be part of the Government's proposed system.

The working party is against the proposed prosecutor being involved generally with children and in most cases, under the report's proposals, he would not be.

The reports says that few children deny the offence with which they have been charged. If the Reporter is satisfied that the child is right to admit the offence, he would decide whether to refer the child to a hearing by a panel which would have no power to impose a fine or custodial sentence. The aim is to divert as many children as possible from the formal system.

"Detention as a separate order should be abolished, but there should be no minimum period for the duration of a youth custody sentence," the report says.

Only a crown court should have the power to impose a youth custody sentence, on referral from a hearing, and it too should have open to it alternatives to custody. The range of youth custody sentences would be the same as now, up to an indeterminate sentence for murder, the working party says.

A juvenile would appear before court when there was an appeal from a hearing decision; when the offence was denied; when it was a motoring offence; when the offence was serious or there was a history of persistent offending; or in the case of alleged motoring offences carrying a mandatory or discretionary disqualification from driving.

The age of criminal responsibility should be raised from 10 to 12, the group says.

Children Still in Trouble (Association of Directors of Social Services).

Sur votre bicyclette!: The team of policemen and one policewoman from Hampshire Police who yesterday set off to cycle to Paris, in uniform, in an attempt to raise £5,000 for a school for handicapped children near their station at Shirley in Southampton. They crossed the Channel to Le Havre and hope to finish on top of the Eiffel Tower.

Allowances cut for BAOR troops

By Henry Stanhope

British servicemen in West Germany are facing big cuts in their take-home earnings this summer after a decision to reduce their local overseas allowances (LOAs).

A howl of protest is expected in the Naafi where private soldiers will find themselves the poorer by £322 a year.

The decision will save the Ministry of Defence £17 million a year, but officials pointed out last night that this is not the reason for it.

LOAs are paid tax-free to servicemen abroad to compensate them for any increase they have to put up with in the cost of living.

Soldiers in the British Army of the Rhine (BOAR) and airmen in the RAF Germany have seen them reduced in recent years, after periodic reviews, as the cost of living in Britain has risen towards the German level. The latest reassessment took place last year.

Although they are intended only as compensatory allowances, LOAs are usually seen by servicemen as part of the perquisites of overseas postings and cuts are always resented.

All ranks are affected. One of the worst blows is to a single army captain, whose daily allowance will fall from £3.34 to £1.68 – a loss of £602 a year. A married general with one child is having his LOA reduced from £10.19 a day to £8.65.

But the gloom is not universal. Yesterday's announcement also included a rise in the LOAs for those serving in Cyprus, Gibraltar and Italy.

In Cyprus a married corporal with one child will receive £8.92 a day instead of £5.65, and a captain with one child will get £8.73 instead of £7.48.

The corporal's LOA is higher than that of the captain because in Cyprus they share similar facilities and the corporal needs more to supplement his lower salary. A single captain's LOA in Cyprus is being raised by one penny a day.

London bus routes go private

Two bus routes in London are to be given to private operators.

The contracts will last three years, with the level of service being specified by London Regional Transport, which will collect the fare revenue. The operators will receive a contract price.

The buses will not have to be painted red, but must carry the London Transport symbol.

Twelve loss-making routes operated by London Regional Transport were put out to tender. Six were won back by London Buses.

Four routes went to subsidiaries of the National Bus Company, the remaining two to private companies.

Len Wright Travel will take over route 81, between Hounslow and Slough, and Crystals of Orpington route 146, between Bromley and Downe.

Seventeen companies submitted bids, and LRT said the process would result in significant cost savings and a 2.5 per cent increase in services.

Mr David Baylis, LRT's director of planning, said yesterday the cost of running the 12 services was nearly £4 million a year. "The benefits will accrue progressively, rising over time to more than £750,000 a year."

Suspended jail terms for rape claim woman

Jacqueline Berkeley, who made a false claim that she was raped in a police station cell was yesterday given jail sentences totalling three months which were suspended for a year.

Berkeley, aged 21, of Haydn Avenue, Moss Side, Manchester, was found guilty at Manchester Magistrates' Court last month of six charges involving wasting police time, using threatening behaviour, assaulting three women police officers and damaging police property. Sentence was adjourned for social inquiry reports.

She claimed the offence took place in the city's Greenheys police station. An internal inquiry, the biggest ever undertaken by Greater Manchester police, followed, and the four oficers she named were cleared.

Mr Glynmor Jones, the stipendiary magistrate, told Berkeley that the cost of the inquiry had "run into several thousand pounds".

Inquiry into motorway extension

The Government has ordered a public inquiry into the proposed extension of the M3 in Hampshire.

The eight-mile extension, from Bar End, Winchester, to the outskirts of Southamton, crosses the river Itchen at Hockley and the existing Winchester bybass and the main railway line at Shawford before following the Otterbourne and Chandlers Ford by-pass from Compton to the M27 link road near Bassett roundabout.

The inquiry into the draft proposals, which contain two compulsory purchase orders, will open at Eastleigh on Wednesday, June 19.

Youth for trial on PC charge

Christopher Mark Ogleton, aged 17, a cook, of Lacon Road, East Dulwich, was yesterday committed for trial to the Central Criminal Court accused of causing grivous bodily harm to Police Constable George Hammond, with inte nt to prevent arrest on January 23.

He was also charged with robbing Mr Kantial Patel of £7 in cash. PC Hammong was yesterday "critical but stable" in the intensive care unit at King's College Hospital, Camberwell, London.

Teacher accused of school fires

A teacher was committed for trial yesterday, accused of setting fire to two schools.

Duncan McAndrew, aged 38, of Wooodfield End, Layer-de-la-haye, near Colchester, Essex, was accused of damaging Eight Ash Green Primary School, and endangering the life of Edwin John Hopkins, its headmaster. He was also accused of setting light to St Andrews Junior School, Hatfield Peveral, near Chelmsford. He was remanded on bail.

Police inquiry

Det Chief Supt Colin Bailey, from Lincolnshire, is to conduct an inquiry into official complaints from national newspapers and television companies about the way Northamptonshire Police handled press inquiries during the investigation into the death of Mrs Janet Maddocks, a Birmingham social worker whose body was found alongside a railway line.

Sakharov hearing told of 'rights' hope

By Iain Elliot

A younger leader in the Kremlin allowed some hope for a gradual improvement in the observance of human rights, Mr Elliott Abrams, the American Assistant Secretary of State for human rights, said in London yesterday.

Speaking at the fifth International Sakharov Hearing, he said that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, had so far made only minor gestures in that direction.

The situation had deteriorated in recent years, but among the achievements of the Helsinki process were the legitimization of human rights as a subject for discussion at next month's Ottawa conference and other international meetings, Mr Abrams said.

It was important that the denial of civil liberties in the USSR was condemned by politicians visiting Moscow, and raised in the parliaments and media of the West, as such pressure has proved effective in the past. Human rights would remain on the agenda of American relations with Moscow.

The Sakharov hearing ended its two-day session yesterday. The panel of jurists and scholars, under the chairmanship of Mr Simon Wiesenthal, Director of the Vienna Documentation Centre, heard the testimony of exiled Soviet dissidents on worsening violations of human rights in the USSR, since the signing of the Helsinki Final Act in 1975.

An unexpected witness, Mr Nikolai Pankov, who left Moscow two weeks ago, told how he and his wife, formerly employed by the Soviet state cinema organization, had acquired an exit visa by the unorthodox means of sending countless letters to the media and leadership, confirming that President Reagan was correct in his claim that civil liberties were denied to citizens of the USSR.

When taken by police for psychiatric examination, he won his freedom with a certificate of sanity obtained, with foresight, from a visiting French psychiatrist.

Mr Viktor Davydov, recently released after two years in Soviet psychiatric prison hospitals, emphasized the importance of Western pressure in improving conditions for political prisoners. When he was adopted by Western human rights groups, conditions greatly improved. However, there were prisoners who were still confined more than a decade after being imprisoned without trial.

Other witnesses spoke of the repression of non-Russian nationals in the USSR, of religious believers persecuted by atheist officials, the jamming of Western radio broadcasts, and interception of postal and telephone communications.

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ADDRESS WITHOUT REDRESS

The Bill to abolish the Metropolitan County Councils has just completed its passage through the Commons – a passage that included 200 hours of supposed detailed examination in Committee.

Unfortunately, the 'detail' extended to only 16 of the 98 clauses – discussion on the other 82 was cut short by the Government's guillotine.

The excuse given was shortage of time.

The reasons vary somewhat from the excuse.

Ministerial inability to support claims to make savings – presumably caused by the fact that they foresaw no reduction in essential spending on Police, Fire and Transport services (which account for nearly 70% of all Metropolitan Counties spending in any case). Ministerial inability to provide impartial support for the claims they did make. Ministerial inability to provide an effective alternative method of organising present services. But the real reason is even more frightening. Power.

Not for the people, but for themselves.

The power to 'rate cap' the new joint boards in advance. The power to tell the new Police, Fire and Transport boards how to manage their affairs. The power to pull the strings on an 'appointed' body responsible for services like derelict land reclamation and urban traffic control. The power to enforce 'guidance' on planning and highways at District Council level.

Even the power to subsequently change the arrangements agreed by Parliament for the Met Counties' essential services.

Power over the people without accountability to those people is a concept alien to democracy. The ability to question is the inalienable right of the British public.

Or is the right of redress disappearing altogether?

Abolition-at any cost?

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Prime Minister's seven-nation tour

24 die in Tamil rocket attack as Thatcher arrives in Sri Lanka

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

Mrs Margaret Thatcher flew into Colombo last night but before she arrived, Tamil rebels, who are conducting a terrorist campaign to force the establishment of a separate state in the north and east of the island, marked the occasion with a series of vicious attacks in which 24 people – including four policemen – died.

The strife-torn north of Sri Lanka was subjected to the worst attacks when a number of rockets were fired at the complex of offices housing the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Northern Region, in Jaffna. The attacks began at 9.30 on Wednesday evening and continued until 2.30 yesterday morning, by which time, reports say, the complex was razed to the ground.

Jaffna police station close by was also damaged, and so were the town hall and other buildings in the area. The rockets were fired from a mile away.

After the attacks there were also fears that a number of senior officers had been abducted as their colleagues were unable to contact them.

Yesterday young men armed with rifles openly toured Jaffna advising people to beware of reprisals by the Sri Lankan armed forces and to return home. Most inhabitants complied and by nid-morning the town had the air of a ghost city.

A government spokesman said that the 20 civilians who died were all Tamil terrorists.

The airport at which Mrs Thatcher landed was also subjected to an attack when a bomb exploded in a train at the airport station. The train was 10 minutes late arriving but had it been on time it would have been crowded with around 500 young women working at the port's free trade zone.

A beggar woman was killed and three railway employees were injured in the incident.

It was supposed that the extremists planned the attack to create a sufficient outrage to cause Mrs Thatcher's visit to be cancelled at the last minute, or at least to embarrass the Sri Lankan Government.

As it was, Mrs Thatcher was greeted at the airport by Mr Gamini Dissanayake, the Minister in charge of the huge dam on the Mahaweli River which she is due to inaugurate today. She was taken to the residence of the British High Commissioner for a briefing on the situation.

At the time of its inception the Victoria Dam represented the largest single British aid project anywhere in the world. British companies have built it and provided the power station equipment. All in all it represents £113 million of British money donated by the Government.

The dam, set in a beautiful steep-sided jungle-clad mountain valley in the heart of the central highlands, will provide both hydro-electric power and irrigation.

● Mrs Thatcher will meet President Jayewardene in Colombo today (Henry Stanhope writes).

She will then deliver an address to the Sri Lanka Parliament tomorrow before flying to Delhi for talks and dinner with the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

The final call on her Eastern odyssey will be on King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who invited her to stop at Riyadh during her return flight to London for discussions on the world scene in general and the Middle East in particular. The Gulf War will figure prominently

The Prime Minister arrives back at Heathrow airport later on Sunday.

'I'm not here to discuss Labour'

From Our Correspondent, Jakarta

Margaret Thatcher, appearing slightly tired from a gruelling itinerary and intense tropical heat, left Indonesia for Sri Lanka yesterday after being mobbed by enthusiastic university students and saying she looked forward to closer economic and political ties with Jakarta.

She brushed aside questions from British journalists about Opposition criticisms of remarks she has made during her Asian tour. "I didn't come all the way to Indonesia to discuss comments about me from someone at home," she said. At a farewell press conference at the end of her two-day visit to Indonesia, the British Prime Minister drew laughs when she said: "We are in Indonesia. My interest at the moment is not in the Labour Party and I am sure you will understand that I do not feel I can say anything constructive about it."

Mrs Thatcher said Britain could not offer as much in development aid as Indonesia would like, though she hoped follow-up ministerial visits and increased contacts would result in concrete agreements.

She said she saw the main potential areas of cooperation in communications, aerospace, agriculture, food technology and defence, but declined to comment on future defence contracts saying they were not the sort of things to discuss in public until they were signed.

Earlier in the day, Mrs Thatcher flew to the mountain city of Bandung in West Java to visit the Bandung Institute of Technology, and the country's fledgling aerospace industry.

Security men and police had to push the enthusiastic crowd back, and Mr Thatcher was jostled. At the press conference, she called the welcome "most remarkable, something I will never forget."

Asked by an Indonesian journalist whether Britain would change its UN vote on Indonesia's annexation of the former Portuguese territory of East Timor from abstension to a "Yes" vote, the Prime Minister said the issue was one which concerned Indonesia, Portugal and the United Nations, and not Britain.

She said, however, that she had questioned President Suharto on the Timor question. Though she did not sign any economic or trade agreements while in Indonesia, Mrs Thatcher suggested progress in the field of advanced technology might be forthcoming after the Industry Minister, Mr B J Habibie visits London in June.

Hanoi's defence minister goes to Indonesia

Jakarta – The Vietnamese Defence Minister, General Van Tien Dung, is scheduled to arrive in Indonesia today for a six-day official visit which political observers say underlines Jakarta's efforts to promote bilateral relations and keep diplomatic channels open on the issue of Vietnam's intervention in Cambodia (Our Correspondent writes).

General Dung, aged 68, will visit Indonesian army units, and naval and air installations as well as paying a courtesy call on President Suharto.

Indonesia had been appointed by the five other members of the non-Communist Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) as interlocutor with Hanoi over the Cambodia question.

China welcomes home 500-man Antarctic team

Peking (AP) – China's first Antarctic expedition returned home to a tumultuous welcome in Shanghai, where 2,000 onlookers cheered as the explorers' two ships docked after a 142-day round trip, Chinese news reports said yesterday.

More than 500 scientists and support staff participated in the expedition, which established China's first Antarctic base and did research in geology, meteorology, chemistry and geophysics.

An eight-member Chinese team has arrived at the base for eight months of winter research. Mr Wu Heng, Director of the National Antarctic Exploration Committee, was quoted as saying at the homecoming ceremony on Wednesday.

Straying Soviet airliner embarrasses Athens

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A Soviet airliner on its way to Athens strayed from its course on Wednesday and overflew sensitive Greek military zones, causing embarrassment to the Greek Government, the only one in the West to have condoned the shooting down of a Korean airliner by Soviet fighters in comparable circumstances in 1983.

The airliner, a TU54 on a scheduled flight from Leningrad to Athens, was spotted by Greek air defence radars some 35 miles west of its authorized lane. It is believed to have flown over Tanagra, the main Greek air base which also serves Nato.

Although Greek air defence was alerted there was no interception. The Greek Air Force, which prides itself that it can scramble its fighters within three minutes, runs round-the-clock patrols in the Aegean to deter Turkish violations of its air space.

Civil aviation officials said they had tried in vain to warn the Soviet pilot but he seemed to understand no English. He landed at Athens airport behind schedule and explained that there had been an error. The plane carried six passengers and 10 crew members.

A Greek Government spokesman said later the incident was routine. He rejected suggestions that the Soviet plane might have been spying on a Nato exercise over central Greece involving flights of Awacs early warning planes.

The shooting down of the Korean airliner with a loss of 269 lives soured relations between the Western allies and the Socialist Government of Greece which had blocked the unanimous condemnation of the Soviet action, on the ground that the plane had been on a CIA spying mission.

Inevitably, the opposition press yesterday recalled that when Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Greek Prime Minister, was asked during an American television interview in January if the Soviet action had been justified, he replied: "If such a plane entered Greek air space, we too would have shot it down. So would the United States, I am sure. These are the rules of the game."

Cardinal says Pope was barred by Prague

From Roger Boyes
Prague

Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek, the most beleagnered Roman Catholic leader in the Soviet bloc, told British reporters yesterday that the Czechoslovak Government had barred the Pope from visiting Czechoslovakia this year to celebrate an important religious anniversary.

Only a day before yesterday's audiences, given in connection with Sir Geoffrey Howe's visit to Prague, the Czechoslovak primate had read an apostolic letter from the Pope to a congregation of 1,000 priests and at least 6,000 believers in Moravia. In a manner reminiscent of Poland they chanted "We want the Pope".

Cardinal Tomasek had invited the Pope to commemorate in July the death of Saint Methodius who 1,000 years ago brought Christianity to Czechoslovakia. But the Czech leadership, apparently afraid that a papal visit could fuel an already strong religious revival, has told the Cardinal that "the time is not ripe" for the Pope, the priest said, speaking in his high ceilinged work room.

In a letter to the authorities, including the party leader, Mr Gustav Husak, the Cardinal had sharply criticized the Government and the Communist Party for mobilizing its full propaganda armoury "to sound the alarm as if the anniversary represents a threat to the existence of the republic".

Neither this letter, nor a separate missive sent to the Communist weekly, *Tribuna*, have received replies.

"Nor will they", the Cardinal said. "Relations have deteriorated sharply in recent months." For a brief moment at the end of last year, it seemed as if the Czechoslovak Government would try to improve relations with the Vatican and the Catholic church at home. However, since a congress of pro-government priests in February, it has become clear that the party leadership wants to isolate the Catholic church as much as possible.

The Primate said that his talks with Sir Geoffrey yesterday had been "very, very important". "It showed that we are not forgotten, that is the worst fate that can befall us." Sir Geoffrey stressed during his talks with government and party officials that the freedom of confession and freedom to practice one's faith were fundamental rights.

But the Cardinal made clear that in talks with the Foreign Secretary and in the separate audiences with British reporters that believers and priests faced serious problems. First, there was a serious shortage of priests – 3,175 in a country of 15 million people and some 4,300 churches.

The Government was withholding its permission for the registration of about 100 priests.

Next stop: Poland's Foreign Minister, Mr Stefan Olszowski, right welcoming Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday at Warsaw Airport, on the third stage of the Foreign Secretary's East European tour.

Mexico's Godfather held with police aides

From John Carlin
Mexico City

Police have announced the capture his week of the alleged "Godfather" of the Mexican drug business, Ernesto Fonseca, aged 60, who is believed by the Attorney-General's office to have amassed a fortune of more than $3,000 million (£2,460 million).

Señor Fonseca was arrested just days after police seized Rafael Caro Quintero, also an alleged big drugs dealer, and the chief suspect in the murder, in February, of a US drugs enforcement agent.

Interrogated by the police, the two former associates are now accusing each other of the murder.

Señor Fonseca was seized, with 24 alleged accomplices, all police officers, after a gun battle with army troops

The Mexican authorities say arrest warrants have been issued for various senior police officers following their confessions. A police chief from the Marijuna-rich northern state of Chihuahua received "a salary" of $45,000 a month from Señor Quintero, according to the attorney-general's office, in exchange for turning a blind eye to drug growing and trafficking. This unprecedented attempt to clean up the Mexican police force is being interpreted by political observers as a response to pressure from the American Government.

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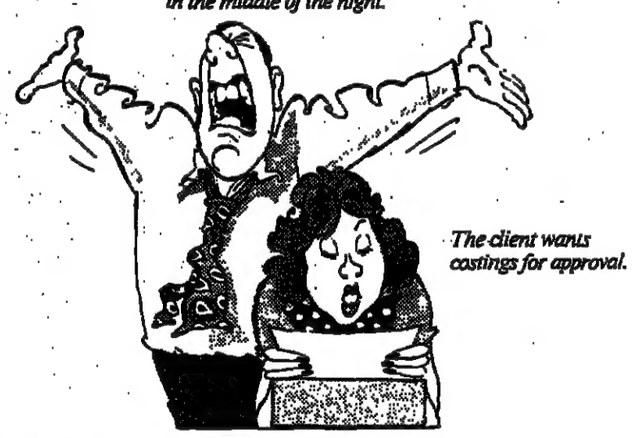

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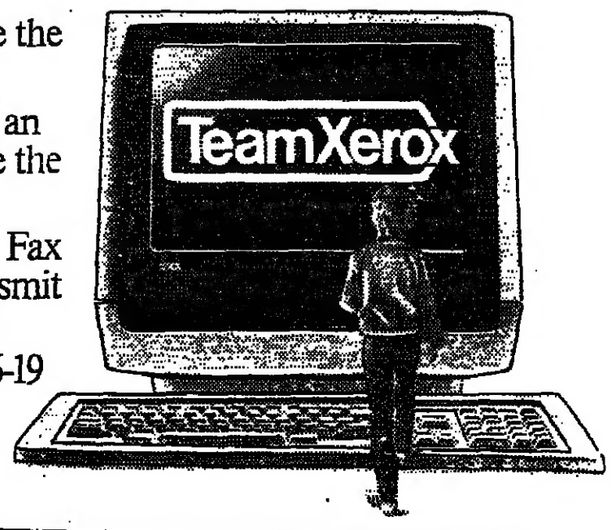

Death of Albania's veteran leader

Heir-apparent assures smooth transition to post-Hoxha era

From Our Correspondent
Belgrade

The death was announced yesterday of Enver Hoxha, Albania's veteran communist leader, who ruled the country with an iron fist since 1944. He was 76.

An official announcement in Tirana said that a commission set up to organize the funeral would be led by Mr Ramiz Alia, the titular head of state. Mr Alia, a senior Politburo member, has been groomed for the top post to assure a smooth transition. His appointment to head the funeral commission is a firm pointer that he is the intended successor to the dead party leader.

The announcement of Mr Hoxha's death was made some 12 hours after his demise by Tiranan Radio. A medical bulletin revealed that he had been suffering from a number of chronic ailments due to diabetes which affected his heart and kidneys. He had suffered, though this was always denied, a stroke a year ago which left him partially paralysed. The bulletin added that he had died of a heart attack.

The death announcement, signed by the Albanian Communist Party, Government and state leadership organs, said the funeral would take place on Monday. A week's mourning has been declared.

According to ATA, the official Albanian news agency, flags would be flown at half mast and all cultural and sporting activities would be suspended in the country.

Mr Hoxha's body would lie in state in the hall of the Praesidium of the People's Assembly so that Albanians could pay homage at set times today, tomorrow and on Sunday and before the funeral on Monday.

The Albanian leader's funeral seemed unlikely to be attended by world leaders or foreign dignitaries. An Albanian Embassy spokesman here said it was "not our practice to invite foreign delegations".

During his long rule, Mr Hoxha purged all those who challenged his policies, including Mehmet Shehu, his one-time Prime Minister. According to Mr Hoxha's own version of the power struggle with Mr Shehu, the former Prime Minister had been a spy and an agent for practically every secret service in the world, including the Soviet and American.

After each plot and attempts to remove him from power, Mr Hoxha wrote in his memoirs about the eliminated former close associates that "they had been thrown on the rubbish tip of history".

His Stalinist course led to a break of relations, in turn, with the Soviet Union and China and an implacable hostility to the West. His was the only communist country which formally abolished religion.

Under Mr Alia, who has been the *de facto* ruler of the small Balkan state since Mr Hoxha's debilitating stroke, Albania is now entering a new era. However cautiously and slowly, Mr Alia has taken the first steps to end Albania's total isolation.

Relations with Greece, bedevilled for decades by disputes, have improved considerably. However, relations with communist Yugoslavia, dogged by ideological differences since the late 1940s, are now at an all-time low in the wake of continuing Belgrade allegations that Albania is inciting Yugoslavia's sizeable Albanian minority to revolt.

But the Yugoslav leadership is hopeful that, with the departure of Mr Hoxha, the way would be open to a gradual improvement of relations.

Mr Alia, who has pledged to continue the policies of his mentor and has been closely involved in the execution of Mr Hoxho's directives, has nevertheless indicated his desire to improve relations with West European countries, especially Italy and West Germany.

He would also like to reestablish relations with Britian, but the question of compensation for the mining of two British destroyers in the Corfu Channel after the Second World War and the fate of the Albanian gold deposited in London seems to stand in the way.

But Albania has been adamant in refusing to have any links with Washington and Moscow, despite assiduous wooing by the Russians.

Over the past year, Mr Alia has been laying the main emphasis on improving his country's living standards believed to be the lowest in Europe.

● **MOSCOW:** Tass was quick to announce the death of Mr Hoxha, who had staunchly rejected years of Soviet overtures for improving relations (AP reports). There was no immediate report of Soviet Government and party condolences being sent but it is assumed a message will be issued

● **PEKING:** China reported the death briefly and without comment (AP reports).

China and Albania were closely allied for more than two decades, but relations between Peking and the Stalinist Albanian regime cooled after the death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976.

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Obituary, page 16

Exiled King has links with Britain

Albanian pretender: King Leka with his mother Queen Geraldine, widow of King Zog.

The Pretender to the Albanian throne is King Leka I, son of the late King Zog of Albania, who died in Paris in 1961 (Alan Hamilton writes).

King Leka, aged 46, lives in South Africa, in a rural farmhouse midway between Pretoria and Johannesburg, with his Australian wife, the former Miss Susan Cullen-Ward.

Three years ago King Leka was accused of being responsible for an attempted armed invasion of Albania by a group of exiles. He denied it.

King Leka, who like the majority of Albanians is a Muslim, has close links with England. His family fled here in 1939 when he was only two days old. After the war they moved to Egypt and later to Spain and he returned for officer training at Sandhurst.

King Leka's claim to the throne is based solely on his father's position. Ahmed Zogu, appointed Prime Minister in 1922, was overthrown in 1924 and fled to Yugoslavia, but returned the following year, backed by a 3,000-strong armed force, proclaimed himself president and dictator

He fled the Italian invasion of Albania in 1939, never to return.

Mother's grief: Mrs Fatima Mheidleh bursting into tears after opening a present from her 16-year-old daughter, Sana, who killed herself by crashing a car bomb into an Israeli convoy in Lebanon.

Lebanon pullout quickens

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

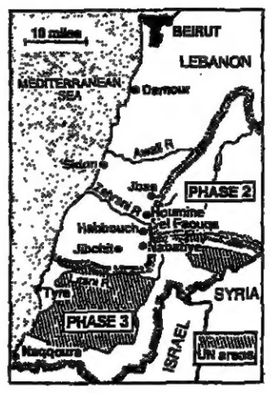
Israel took a significant step yesterday towards completing its phased withdrawal from Lebanon when relieved troops abandoned control of a 300 square kilometre triangle of hostile territory in and around the Shia Muslim town of Nabatiya.

The evacuation, which still leaves 19 per cent of Lebanon under Israeli occupation, prompted speculation that the final pullback of all uniformed men to the border will now be finished before the third anniversary of the Lebanon invasion on June 6.

The retreat was accompanied by a blunt warning from Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, that Israeli forces would attack the area again if its inhabitants mounted attacks against Israel. "If they will not allow any tranquillity to our settlements, they will get hell," he stated.

Mr Rabin confirmed that Israel would retain indirect control over a buffer zone running north of its border which would be policed by two Israeli-backed forces, local village militias and the South Lebanon Army, which would be given a mobile role.

"Israel will retain the freedom of action to do whatever is needed to back these local Lebanese forces," the Defence Minister said.



A meeting of the Israeli Cabinet is expected soon to vote on the exact width of the security zone, whose creation has been criticized by some left wing Israelis who claim that it means that the army will still remain tangled in the complexities of Lebanon.

Yesterday, Mr Rabin spelt out the tough policy which Israel will pursue after the pullback is over. "We are prepared to meet any attempt to interfere with the normal life of our citizens by offensive means, either by fire or by movement by air, land, or sea," he declared.

Over 95 per cent of the 70,000 inhabitants of the area abandoned yesterday were Shia Muslims. The "Nabatiya triangle" was known as one of the most dangerous areas under Israeli occupation, with almost daily ambushes against the troops and nightly rocket attacks against the regional headquarters in Nabatiya.

During a tour of the sector last week, I passed a number of gaping craters in the road where radio-controlled bombs had recently exploded as Israeli convoys passed by. Many of the villages appeared almost deserted, and in some the homes of suspects had been demolished by Israeli bulldozers.

Yesterday's mini-withdrawal was facilitated by last week's decision to dismantle the Israeli prison camp at Ansar after the controversial transfer of 1,200 Arab detainees to a new centre inside Israel and the release of 750 others considered less dangerous.

● **NABATIYA:** As the last Israeli armoured personnel carrier rolled out of Nabatiya yesterday morning the people bagan to flock to the town square (Our Correspondent writes).

"*Allah Akbar*, (God is great), they shouted as they celebrated the end of 34 months of occupation.

The Israeli pullback from Nabatiya and at least six other nearby villages yesterday constituted the second stage of a withdrawal that began on February 16

Gorbachov impresses O'Neill

From Nicholas Ashford
Washington

"He's hard. He's tough. He's strong. He'd make an excellent trial attorney, an outstanding attorney in New York if he lived there," remarked Mr Thomas O'Neill, Speaker of the House of Representatives, about Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader.

Mr O'Neill's remarks were made during a televised press conference following a Kremlin meeting with Mr Gorbachov. He said he had been "tremendously impressed by Gorbachov's ability, talents, frankness and openness."

"There is no question that he is a master or words and a master of the art of politics and diplomacy," the Speaker added.

Mr Gorbachov did not reveal whether he was similarly impressed by Mr O'Neill's political skills. But he did use their four-hour meeting to express his dismay at what he described as the Reagan Adminstration's "absolutey incomprehensible haste" in dismissing the lates Soviet freeze on medium-range missiles.

He told Mr O'Neill, who was leading a 13-member congressional delegation to Moscow, that the US rejection of his freeze initiative raised doubts about the sincerity of its uproach at the Geneva nuclear arms talks.

"A kind of ice age is being observed in relations between the USSR and the US," he observed, adding that the Soviet leadership had shown its desire to return the relationship to a "normal channel"

● **QUEENSTOWN, MARYLAND:** Mr James Schlesinger, the former Defence Secretary, in a biting attack on President Reagan's strategy in negotiations with the Soviet Union, said the President's strategic defence initiative could divide the Nato allies and doom arms control talks in Geneva (AP reports).

"He's fallen in love with his own system," Mr Schlesinger said of the President's fascination with "Star Wars"

● **GENEVA:** US and Soviet arms negotiators will meet in plenary session today, a US delegation spokesman said (Reuter reports). The unexpected move, breaking a three-week pattern, will bring together separate Soviet and US teams on intercontinental nuclear missiles, medium-range missiles and space weapons.

● **THE HAGUE:** The Dutch coalition parties stood firmly behind the Government's position on cruise missile deployment (Reuter reports).

Sudanese debate civilian rule

From Paul Vallely, Khartoum

Detailed proposals for the transfer of power to a civilian government are being discussed by Sudan's new military regime and the alliance of professional associations, unions and political parties which organized the civil disobedience which led to last week's coup.

Yesterday in a second day-long meeting at military headquarters Army officers and alliance representatives considered a structure and timetable proposed by the civilians for a one-year transition to include the formation of a supreme council of civilians plus the leader of the armed forces. That council would then draft a new constitution.

Administrative power would be vested in a largely civilian council of ministers, with the Minister of Defence drawn from the Army and a Minister of the Interior from the police.

At the end of the year elections to a national assembly would be organized by an independent Peranent Elections Committee. The assembly would amend and ratify the draft constitution – which would be based on 13 points discussed by yesterday's meeting – and would then transform itself into a four-year parliament, from which the new government would be elected.

Negotiaitons got off to a bad start yesterday with a controversial preliminary address by the meeting's chairman, Brigadier Osman Abdulla Muhammad, the army director of military operations.

His opeining statement contained words and phrases which many alliance members found objectionable and sparked a heated discussion on democracy.

At its end Brigadier Osman apologized for some of his expressions, according to Dr Adlan el-Hardlo, president of the Khartoum University Staff Association.

Early in the morning the meeting had been interrupted by a group calling itself the Islamic National Front, which burst into the room and demanded to be heard.

It was found to be a renamed section of the Muslim Brotherhood, led by Mr Hassan Turrabi discredited for its two years involvement with the Nimeiry regime and its rigorous application of Sharia (Islamic) law.

Mr Ali Osman Taha, for the Front, denounced other political parties and questioned the right of unions and professional associations to become involved in the political process.

His faction wanted power to rest with the Army during the transition. Observers interpret this as a realization that the Muslim Brotherhood has little chance of influence in elections but would stand much more chance behind the scenes with the senior Army officers who aquiesed in Nimeiry's manipulation of Islamic principles for political ends.

The 13-point charter on which the constitution should be based would guarantee freedoms of speech, assembly and the press; a non-aligned foreign policy; autonomy for the south; and the independence of the judiciary.

Swiss accepted looted gold from the Nazis

Zurich (Reuter) – Loot formed the greater part of 350 million tonnes of gold sent by the Nazis to neutral Switzerland to pay for arms, fuel and sabotage, according to a Swiss National Bank study based on bank archives.

The study, published yesterday, says it seems certain that some of the gold the German Reichbank shipped to Switzerland was seized in occupied countries or from Jews in concentration camps.

It also supports evidence in a new book showing in detail the extent to which the bank let the Nazis use Swiss neutrality to finance their war effort.

The bank study, written by its former archivist, Herr Robert Vogler, describes how the Nazis sold far more gold to Switzerland than Germany possessed before the war.

"Only so-called looted gold could explain the difference, even if one adds the gold 'legally' taken over from Austria in 1938 and Czechoslovakia in 1939," he writes.

The 350 million tonnes of gold – then worth about 1.7 billion Swiss francs – topped Germany's 1938 gold reserves by more than ten times, says the report.

Even the German Economics Minister, Herr Walther Funk, said at the Nuremburg war crimes trial that Germany's gold holdings amounted to only about 860 million Swiss francs.

Youth walkout deplored

Kingston Jamaica (AFP, Reuter) – Right-wing delegates from the United States and Western Europe who walked out of an international youth conference and caused it to end in an uproar were described yesterday by a Jamaican minister as "spoilt children".

Mr Errol Aderson, who organized the event to mark International Youth Year, said yesterday the demonstration by 18 of the 80 delegates had been undemocratic. The four-day conference, which was limited to "democratic" groups, broke up in disorder

The walkout followed a vote against an effort to have elections for a permanent secretariat. Mr Steve Morrisey, of Britain's Conservative Party, said it was intended as a demonstration against what he described as the "undemocratic" nature of the conference in voting against immediate elections.

The event had been beset with problems since police used tear gas to break up Jamaican leftists who opposed its opening last Saturday.

Five Latin American delegations threatened to walk out after they were refused time

Infertility risk for IUD users

Washington (AFP) – The use of intrauterine devices for birth control appears to double the risk of infertility and young women who have not been pregnant should avoid using IUDs if they wish to have children in the future, according to two studies published yesterday.

Dr Daniel Cramer, who conducted one of the studies at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, said the research suggested that as many as 88,000 US couples may be unable to have children because of reproductive damage caused by IUDs.

The studies, published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, found that plastic IUDs were the most dangerous

The Boston study of 4,185 women found that the risk of infertility was about 60 per cent higher than usual among women who used copper IUDs.

Irish doubts on Israel mission

From Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent, Dublin

Intense discussion has been going on within the Irish Government as to whether the Israelis should be allowed to open an embassy in Dublin at a time when Israel's proxy militias are firing almost daily at Irish troops of the United Nations force in southern Lebanon.

In two months' time, President Chaim Herzog of Israel, himself Irish-born, will be visiting the Republic of Ireland and Israeli officials would like to announce the opening of a diplomatic mission here at the same time – even though Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon have themselves recently been threatening Irish troops and firing live bullets around their vehicles.

Mr Bruce Kashdan, the councillor for Irish affairs at the Israeli Embassy in London, who previously worked for the Israeli Foreign Ministry inside Lebanon, has been living in Dublin for some weeks, talking to Irish officials about the advantages of increased trade and tourism between the two countries.

But he has found himself being closely questioned by the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs about the behaviour of Israeli troops in southern Lebanon, the treatment of Lebanese prisoners by the Israelis and the constant friction between Irish soldiers and the Lebanese militias who are paid for, armed and uniformed by the Israeli army.

Ireland's relationship with Israel has been a curious one. Both countries obtained their independence from Britain after a fierce guerrilla war. Both countries are small, rural nations trying to transfer their economies from pure agriculture to high technology. Dublin is the only EEC capital in which the Israelis do not have an embassy. The idea that Israel "made the desert bloom" is an attractive one in a poor county like Ireland. In theory, at least, both nations have something to gain by an increase in trade relations.

But since Ireland's participation in the UN peacekeeping force in Lebanon in 1978, the Israelis have not been universally popular here. The murder of two Irish soldiers by Israeli-paid Lebanese militia men and the countless shooting incidents between pro-Israeli gunmen and Irish troops in southern Lebanon have caused a good deal of anger in Dublin.

Some UN officers – and they include several Irish soldiers as well – suspect that an Israeli Shin Bet intelligence officer may have ordered the killing of privates Thomas Barrett and Derek Smallhorn in 1980; the man they privately name is still serving with the Israelis in southern Lebanon. Israel has vigorously denied the allegation.

Nevertheless, Israel's "iron fist" raids on Shia Muslim villages, and its almost Cromwellian threat of a "scorched earth" policy against the south Lebanese guerrillas has raised unhappy associations in Ireland where the memory of Black and Tan reprisal raids against the IRA in the 1920s is still very much alive. A television film of Israeli troops firing around an Irish Army vehicle near Haris in southern Lebanon – an incident originally denied by the Israelis – only exacerbated these feelings.

Mr Kashdan says that every Irish complaint is forwarded at once to Jerusalem and that the Israelis have only the safety of Irish soldiers at heart.

Mr Herzog: A date for the opening

He suggests that the Israeli Army does not actually control the militias which it pays and arms but insists that the Israeli Army will complete its withdrawal very soon and that even Israel's Shin Bet intelligence men will leave Lebanon at the same time.

In an interview with *The Times* Mr Kashdan described the pro-Israeli militias as "independent, southern Lebanese communities who feel they are protecting themselves against groops in their own Lebanese manner".

The problem, however, is that Israel intends to leave behind it a "security zone" patrolled by pro-Israeli Lebanese gunmen, an area that seems certain to include part of the Irish UN battalion's own territory. The Irish are now in the difficult position of finding themselves on a new front line in Lebanon and, indeed, several Hezbollah "Party of God" Shia Muslim guerrillas hostile to Israel have been seen in the Irish area.

Within the Irish Cabinet, Mr Peter Barry, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, is said to be in favour of the opening of an Israeli Embassy in Dublin. Mr Patrick Cooney, the Defence Minister, whose men are being fired at with Israeli weapons, is far more sceptical. Mr John Bruton, the Minister for Trade, is apparently concerned about the effect on Irish meat exports to the Arab world if the Israelis open a mission in Dublin.

Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Taoiseach, is more concerned about the danger to Irish troops. Israel has refused to let UN soldiers patrol down to the international frontier. According to Mr Kashdan, "Israel is concerned about the lives of UN men. They are on a peacekeeping mission ... Nothing would be served by having UN troops caught up in Israeli return fire." Which is precisely what worries some ministers in Dublin.

Spanish abortion law is ruled unconstitutional

From Harry Debelius
Madrid

The constitutional court has ruled that a recent Spanish law authorising abortion under certain circumstances is invalid.

The ruling rejected the law, which was passed in October 1983, but had not been put into effect pending the outcome of an appeal against it, on the ground that it violates Article 15 of the 1978 Constitution, which says, "everyone has a right to life and physical and moral integrity".

The rejection was a harsh political blow to the Socialist Government. Last week, the Deputy Prime Minister, Senor Alfonso Guerra, commented that if the constitutional court invalidated the law, the Government would start a "pardon factory", to prevent women from being punished

The law, now ruled unconstitutional, would have permitted abortion in three cases: When the life of the mother is in danger; when the child would be born with a serious physical or mental handicap, or when the pregnancy resulted from rape.

A spokesman for the Socialist Party said: "We regret the loss of what was a good opportunity to solve the problems of so many Spanish women."

Killer plant in Bhopal closed for good

Bhopal (Reuter) – The Indian subsidiary of Union Carbide yesterday announced the permanent closure of its Bhopal plant, where a gas leak last December killed 2,500 people.

Mr F. Mitra, regional personnel manager of Union Carbide India, said the company had tried to ngotiate with the authorities to make products which did not use the deadly methyl isocyante gas but it was made clear that permission to restart the factory would not be given.

● **LONDON:** Union Carbide said it will resume production of an insecticide made with methyl isocyanate at its plant in Beziers, Southern France, despite local fears about safety (AP-Dow Jones reports). New security procedures for transport and storage reduced any danger to residents, the company said.

Jailed Britons 'still ill-treated'

The British consul in Lagos, Mr Ian Kydd, visited two Briton being held in Nigeria's top security prison yesterday for the first time in six weeks but said that their conditons have not improved (Richard Dowden writes).

Mr Kydd said that Mr Angus Patterson and Mr Kenneth Clark, both from Aberdeen, were separated at night and kept in 10ft by 8ft cells with four other prisoners without beds. Food was inadequate and food parcels from outside not passed on.

Tikhonov back in public view

Moscow (Reuter) – The Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, reappeared in public after his absence of several weeks had prompted speculation he was seriouly ill and about to step down.

Television film showed Mr Tikhonov, aged 79, at a meeting on Wednesday with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, to discuss the role of Soviet artists in celebrating the end of the Second World War. The Prime Minister seemed fit and spoke animatedly, although he was slow in standing to applaud speakers.

US population growing older

Washington (AP) – America's median age has risen from 30.9 years last year to 31.2 years, the highest average in the nation's history, the Census Bureau said.

The median age will continue rising, the bureau added, as the huge post Second World War baby boom generation enters its middle years, accompanied by improvements in medical care which are helping larger numbers of the very old to stay alive.

Neves improved

São Paulo (AFP) – Brazil's President-elect, Senhor Tancredo Neves, was in markedly improved condition two days after a relapse following a sixth operation, Senhor Antonio Brito, the presidential spokesman, said.

Soccer arrests

Munich (AP) – Police arrested 12 British and six West German football fans after incidents of pickpocketing and brawling during and after the Bayern Munich-Everton European Cup Winners' Cup match.

Noumea anger

Noumea (AFP) – The French Pacific territory of New Caledonia was virtually paralyzed by a general strike called to protest against the murder, by stoning, of a white woman teacher on Monday. About 2,000 strikers marched through the capital demanding "the arrest of the murderers and protection for teachers".

Warming up

Peking (Reuter) – The first Chinese legislators to visit Moscow in 20 years were impressed by their friendly reception and said their trip was very significant for improved relations. *Outlook* magazine reported.

Rioters jailed

Jakarta (AFP) – A court jailed 28 people for terms of between one and three years for taking part in riots here last September in which 30 people died.

Royal insult

Wellington (Reuter) – A man will be charged with disorderly behaviour after a toilet roll was hurled at the car carrying the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester when they visited Rotorua on New Zealand's North Island.

Pressed for time

La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland (Reuter) – Cartier, the French jewellers, ran a bulldozer over 5,000 fake Cartier watches, seized mainly in Japan, Hong Kong and Singapore, many of which had cheap Swiss mechanisms.

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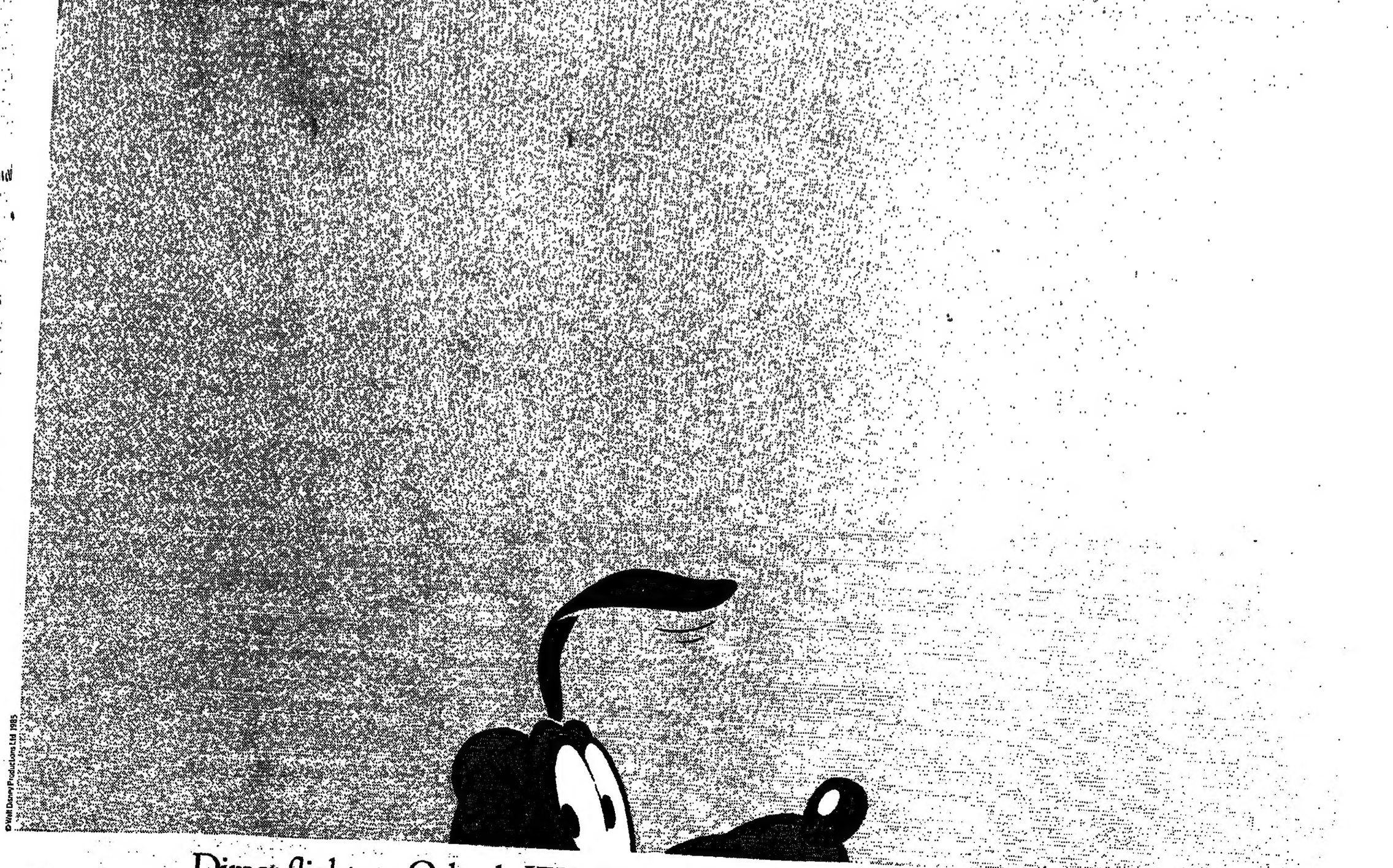
Fly to Pluto from Heathrow.



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BRITISH AIRWAYS

Chinese claim of policy switch on nuclear ships upsets Pentagon

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Reagan Administration officials are taken aback and embarrassed by a Chinese statement that the US has agreed not to include nuclear-armed vessels in a proposed goodwill American Navy visit to Shanghai this month.

For security reasons the US never discloses whether its warships are carrying nuclear weapons.

The statement was made by Mr Hu Yaobang, the Chinese Communist Party leader, to journalists from Australia and New Zealand in Peking on Wednesday.

In a brief reaction which made no direct reference to the statement, the Pentagon said: "The US policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear weapons on its ships remains unchanged."

The Chinese claim puts the Reagan Administration in an awkward position. If correct, the reported American promise contrasts sharply with Washington's recent refusal to specify that calls to New Zealand ports would be by non-nuclear warships.

This led to New Zealand banning the visit of a US warship and to a crisis in the Anzus (Australia, New Zealand and US) defence alliance. The US also fears that acceptance of New Zealand's nuclear-free policy would encourage other allied nations with strong anti-nuclear movements.

The Pentagon's statement said that the US was continuing to work with China on details of the proposed warship visit. An announcement would be made when arrangements were complete.

● WELLINGTON: New Zealand's anti-nuclear policies are to feature on the agenda of talks here with Chinese officials next week as a result of the report that the US will send only conventionally armed ships on to China (W. P. Reeves writes).

Mr Hu, who made the disclosure, will lead the delegation to this country. This year the US declined New Zealand's request that it send only a conventionally armed and powered warship, to comply with the Labour Government's anti-nuclear policy.

The consequences have been a significant cooling in Washington-Wellington relations and a weakening of the Anzus connection.

Mr Geoffrey Palmer, the acting New Zealand Prime Minister, said yesterday that the report from Peking had been noted with interest.

Delhi sets up inquiry into killings of Sikhs

Delhi (Reuter) – The Indian Government yesterday announced that a Supreme Court judge will head a judicial inquiry into the anti-Sikh riots, in which more than 2,700 people died, after the assassination of Indira Gandhi last October.

It also lifted a ban on the All-Sikhs Student Federation, said it was releasing several leaders of the main Sikh party, the Akali Dal, and announced measures to boost the economy in Punjab, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live.

The Akali Dal had demanded all three steps as conditions for calling off its peaceful protest against the policies of the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi. The party has been campaigning for greater religious and political autonomy for Punjab, India'a most important farming state.

Mr Gandhi has said his Government will give top priority to seeking a peaceful solution to Punjab's two-year-old sectarian crisis. At least five Hindus have been killed there in the last six weeks

● The surviving alleged assassin of Mrs Gandhi has a bullet embedded in his spine and risks getting gangrene, his lawyer said yesterday. (AFP reports).

The alleged killer, Satwant Singh, a Sikh security guard, was said in court to be suffering from "numbness and paralysis" in the left leg as a result of poor medical attention.

Survival kit: A Boston policeman displaying the 'Body Bunker', a hand-held shield that has been added to the armoury of the Boston force. The device reportedly deflects fire from a variety of weapons.

Shuttle liftoff due today

Senator goes into space on his 'ultimate junket'

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Senator Jake Garn is set to blast off today in the space shuttle Discovery to become the first legislator to orbit the Earth.

The Republican from Utah, who is 52, is chairman of a Senate sub-committee which oversees the spending of Nasa's billions, and will be on board Nasa's sixteenth space shuttle mission as a Congressional observer.

His mission has been lampooned by cartoonists and attacked by critics as an elaborate public relations gesture – "the ultimate junket" – designed to ensure approval of Nasa's 1986 budget.

Nasa officials, however, claim that it is a serious mission. As a former Navy pilot in Korea, Senator Garn logged thousands of flying hours. He has paid for his own accommodation and transport during training.

The first public official to fly on the shuttle, he has done 120 hours of training over three months with his six crewmates at the Johnson space centre, Houston, Texas.

The senator will fly as a "payload specialist" and will carry out numerous medical and physiological tests and measurements designed to record changes in the body during weightlessness, involving wearing belts of sensors across his head, chest and stomach on launch and right afterwards when the shuttle enters weightlessness.

The crew of seven includes Dr Rhea Seddon, a physician and surgeon whose husband is an astronaut, Robert Gibson.

The senator's maiden space flight has been frustrated several times since his selection in November. He was originally due to go up in the shuttle Challenger, but the flight was cancelled because of problems with the transmission and data relay satellite system.

The mission's tasks were transferred to another shuttle, but again there was postponement, when an access platform hit and damaged a section of the Discovery's payload door.

During its five-day mission the Discovery crew will deploy two communications satellites, for Canada and for the US Defence Department.

Although astronauts going to Congress is nothing new they include Senator John Glenn (Ohio), former Senator Harrison Schmitt (New Mexico) and the late Representative Jack Swigert (Colorado) – Mr Garn will be the first senator to orbit the Earth.

● CAPE CANAVERAL: Liftoff is set for 3.04 am (2.04 pm BST) today and weather forecasters say conditions should be good (AP reports).

Pretoria set to scrap sex-colour laws

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

A recommendation that the laws banning marriage and sex across the colour line should be abolished is to be presented to the Goverment next Monday by a joint standing committee of the South African Parliament, it has been disclosed to *The Times*.

The committee was set up at the beginning of February to consider "the desirability of repealing" the laws, and its members are drawn from all the parties represented in the three parliamentary chambers, white, Coloured (mixed-race) and Indian.

According to informed sources, the Government has already indicated to the committee that it will accept the recommendation, and Parliament should thus be in a position to erase the laws from the statute book before the end of the current session, probably in June.

The two measures, the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act and section 16 of the Immorality Act, were among the first pieces of apartheid legislation to be introduced after the National Party came to power in 1948, and will be the first to be repealed.

The practical implications for other apartheid legislation are fascinating. Where will mixed couples live? In white areas or black? How will the race of their offsprings be classified? What access will they have to segregated amenities such as trains, cinemas, restaurants etc?

What of political rights? As things stand, if an African man married a white woman, the wife would have a vote but the husband would not. Nor would they be able to belong to the same political party.

It seems that the Government has decieed for the time being to make no amendments to other apartheid laws. Instead, racially mixed couples will have to apply for special exemption permits to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and these will be granted on *ad hoc* basis.

In this way, the Government hopes to minimize the repercussive effect of abolishing the anti-miscegenation laws, it is under heavy fire from extreme right-wing groups which argue that the whole edifice of apartheid will be undermined if the laws are repealed.

Black v black, page 14

Billion sums a second computer

Tokyo (AFP) – The top Japanese computer manufacturer, Fujitsu, yesterday began marketing what it calls the world's fastest supercomputer capable of making more than a billion calculations per second.

A Fujitsu spokesman forecast that the supercomputer would find a wide variety of applications in scientific research such as aircraft development, weather forecasting and nuclear-power development.

The calculating speed of the new model, called Facom Vp-400 is nearly double the speed of Fujitsu's fastest previous model.

Lange dismisses rugby tour threat to security

From Jan Raath, Gaborone, Botswana

Mr David Lange, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, does not believe that a tour of South Africa by the All Blacks Rugby Union team will present any danger.

If the team did tour, the level of security provided by South Africa would be high enough to ensure everyone's safety, he said here on Wednesdy night.

He said he opposed any prospects of violence as a threat to sway the New Zealand Rugby Union when it decides on Wednesday whether to make the tour. Mr Lange left Botswana yesterday after game-watching in the remote north.

By 1990, he said, when the Commonwealth Games were being held in New Zealand, African countries would have seen clearly that its Government had done all it could to halt such tours and generally to curtail all sporting links with South Africa. He hoped that by then representatives of Namibia and "A new South Africa" would be attending.

Mr Lange said that in discussions in Lusaka at Easter with Swapo and the African National Congress, he had made plain that New Zealand would not support violence to gain constitutional change in South Africa and Namibia.

He could, however, understand that it would be "galling for anyone under the yoke of oppression in South Africa or Namibia" to have to listen to urgings to non-violent change.

● HARARE: Mr Lange arrived in Zimbabwe yesterday to a state welcome with a flypast of two Hawk jets and a 19-gun salute (AP reports).

Mr and Mrs Lange leave Zimbabwe tomorrow for the Seychelles, the Indian Ocean Island which will be the last stop on a tour that has taken them to Kenya, Mauritius, Tanzania, Zambia and Botswana.

● CAPE TOWN: Six New Zealand journalists broke away yesterday from the party accompanying Mr Lange to interview the Foreign Minister of South Africa, Mr Roelof "Pik" Botha, the South African Press Association reported (AFP reports).

Their action has annoyed Mr Lange, but the jouralists explained: "Anti-South African rhetoric has been stepped up on the trip. We wanted the South African viewpoint to present a balanced picture".

Stranded Briton applies to stay in Uganda

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Mr Anthony Crewe-Gee, the 71-year-old Briton stranded for ten days in "No man's land" between the Kenya and Uganda borders, has travelled to Kampala to apply to remain in Uganda, where he has worked for 34 years.

Mr Crewe-Gee was refused permission to re-enter Uganda at Busie, 250 miles from here. Kenyan immigration officials then refused to allow him back into Kenya because he did not have a valid entry permit.

The British High Commissioner in Kampala, Mr Colin Maclean, said a consular official had gone to Busie to escort Mr Crewe-Gee to the Ugandan capital, after obtaining a letter from Ugandan immigration headquarters permitting him to enter the country on a temporary basis.

Mr Crewe-Gee was for many years chief engineer of the Owen Falls power station at the source of the Nile in Uganda. He later managed a British-owned engineering company and set up a radio manufacturing plant in Jinja.

He said his passport was taken from him by the Ugandan authorities last year, and when it was returned, he was escorted to the Kenya border. He says he did not know that the Ugandans had declared him to be a prohibited immigrant.

Danish strikes linger on

Copenhagen – Life began to return to normal in Denmark yesterday after three weeks of labour unrest and demonstrations which paralysed the country (Christopher Follett writes). Sporadic strikes continued to affect some factories, abattoirs, breweries, hospitals, kindergartens and schools, and two of the country's most important ports Copenhagen and Aarhus, were still strike-bound.

Public transport, post and refuse collection services resumed but it is expected to be several weeks before the massive backlog of post and huge piles of rotting rubbish are cleared.

The strikes were against the latest austerity measures of the centre-right Government, passed by Parliament in late March, which imposed tight 1.5 to 2 per cent pay ceilings The Government says this is necessary if Denmark is to solve its serious balance-of-payments problems by the end of the decade.

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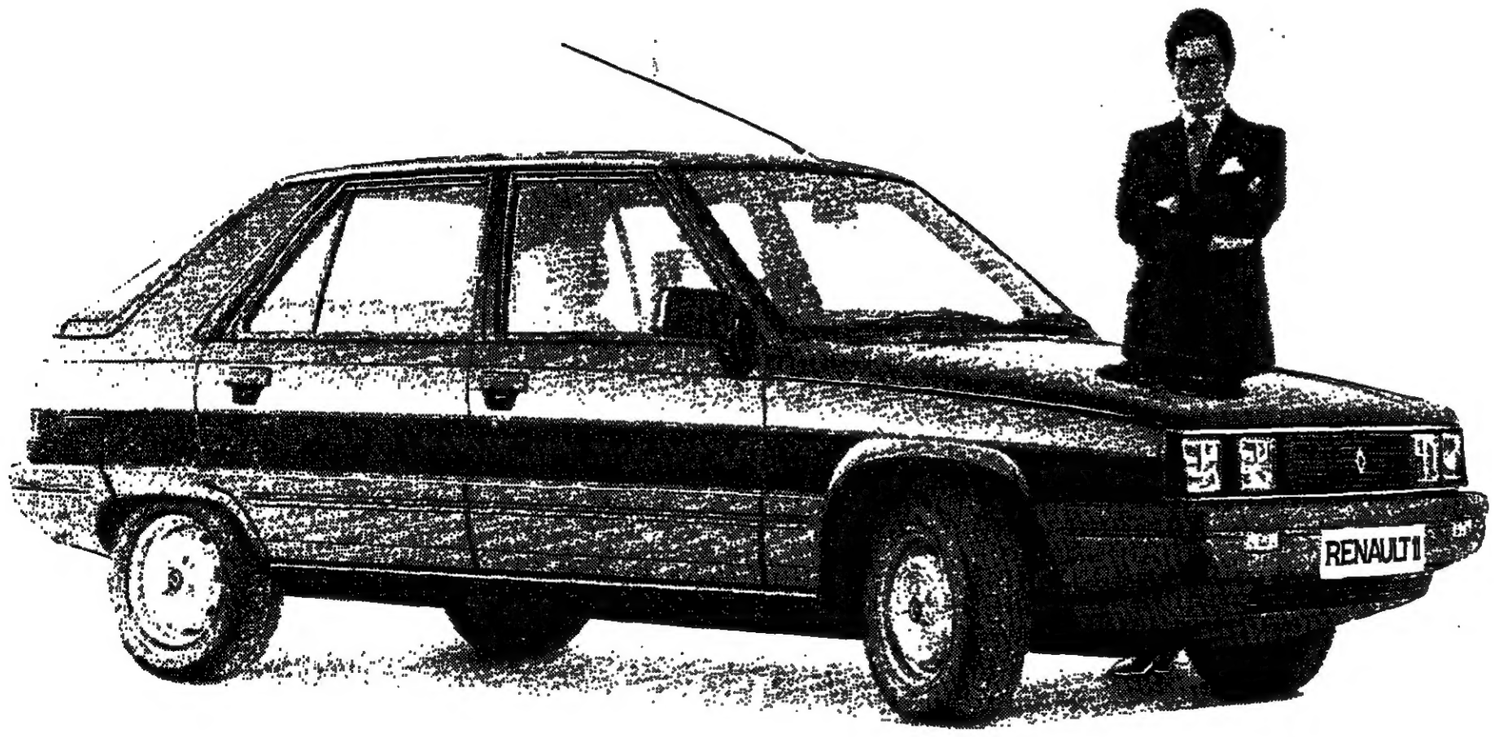

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Burden of proof on applicant seeking entry for marriage

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Bhatia

Before Mr Justice Forbes

[Judgment delivered April 3]

Where a man sought to enter the United Kingdom for marriage to a woman settled here, it was his duty to satisfy the entry clearance officer of each of the matters set out in rule 41 of the *Statement of Changes In Immigration Rules* (HC/169); therefore, the burden of proof was on the applicant throughout.

In considering paragraphs (a) and (b) of the rule, the "intention" the officer had to be satisfied about was the intention of the parties, and in the context of arranged marriages, the purpose of the marriage might include the objects which those arranging the marriage sought to attain as well as those sought by the parties themselves.

In considering whether he was satisfied about any of the matters contained in the rule, the officer might not only make his own inquiries; he was also entitled to take into account his own knowledge of the local background and customs including the fact that marriages were not infrequently arranged for the very purpose of obtaining admission to the UK.

If the only evidence before the officer which he accepted showed that the parties had the intention expressed in paragraph (b), then he might, but was not obliged to, conclude that he was satisfied about paragraph (a) also.

Mr Justice Forbes so held in the Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment dismissing the application for judicial review of Vinod Bhatia against the majority decision of the Immigration Appeal Tribunal on October 1, 1984, which upheld the determination of an adjudicator on March 20, 1984, who dismissed the applicant's appeal against the refusal of an entry clearance officer in the British High Commission in New Delhi on March 17, 1983.

Rule 41 provides: "A man seeking to enter the United Kingdom for marriage to a woman settled here and who intends himself to settle thereafter should not be admitted unless he holds a current entry clearance . . . An entry clearance will be refused unless the entry clearance officer is satisfied: (a) that it is not the primary purpose of the intended marriage to obtain admission to the United Kingdom; and (b) that there is an intention that the parties to the marriage should live together permanently as man and wife; and (c) that the parties to the proposed marriage have met. Where the . . . officer is satisfied that all the conditions at (a) to (c) above apply, an entry clearance will . . . be issued".

Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Mr Vasant Kothari for the applicant; Mr John Laws for the tribunal.

MR JUSTICE FORBES said that the facts were substantially not in dispute; the facts given by the applicant and his fiancee as to their engagement differed, the applicant saying it was arranged by the respective parents, the fiancee that an advert had been put in the *Hindustani Times*.

The main submission of Mr Beloff was that, since the applicant had to satisfy the officer on the balance of probabilities of the requirements of rule 41, once it was established that the marriage was genuine – that the parties intended to live together permanently as man and wife – a presumption arose that the primary purpose of the man and woman was to enjoy the incidents and benefits of marriage.

Thus, although the legal burden was upon the applicant throughout, once paragraph (b) was established the evidential burden shifted on to the officer as to paragraph (a).

His Lordship said that it was clear that the rule provided two distinct elements about which the officer had to be satisfied, and which the applicant had to prove.

Where the words were clear and there was no ambiguity, then those words had be be given their ordinary and natural sense on the accepted principles of statutory construction: see Lord Diplock in *Garland v British Rail Engineering Ltd* ([1983] 2 AC 751, 771A).

It was unnecessary to delve into a philosophical discourse on the nature of marriage, and there was no ambiguity in the words of the rule.

A decision as to what was the primary purpose of the marriage or what was the intention of the parties to it was clearly a question of fact; that was answered by drawing an inference from the facts proved by the evidence adduced, and one had to be careful about the concept of the shifting of the evidential burden.

The words in paragraph (a), which had to include the context of arranged marriages, were clearly wide enough to embrace any discoverable purposes which might be properly attributable to those who arranged the marriage; moreover, the insertion of paragraph (c) was the clearest indication that the draftsman was concerned about the incidents of arranged marriages.

One could deduce from the terms of rule 41 the policy behind it – to deal *inter alia* with a situation where marriages might be arranged by parents for the purpose of securing the entry of the intended bridegroom into the UK.

The words "unless the entry clearance officer is satisfied" imported the concept that the officer was entitled to approach any claims made for a marriage with a degree of caution; he was certainly under a general duty to determine, for instance, the facts surrounding a marriage.

Although he might be satisfied of paragraph (b), there was still the residual burden on the applicant to allay doubts the officer might have as to the primary purpose of the marriage.

Clearly the officer could not properly regard (b) as conclusive of (a). To hold otherwise would be to force an officer to declare himself satisfied on a matter in which he might, through a wealth of experience, have considerable and legitimate doubts.

Where there was an appeal from an officer's decision, a different aspect of the term "burden of proof" would become apparent, since he would be a party to the appeal and might be called upon to justify his decision, that is the inference he might have drawn from the facts.

Questions of purpose and intention were almost inevitably to be determined by drawing inferences from observed fact. There was ample material before the officer on which he could properly find that, despite the intention that the parties should live together as required by (b), he was not satisfied that the primary purpose of the marriage was not to obtain admission.

Solicitors: Bates Wells & Braithwaite; Treasury Solicitor.

Stepdaughter eligible for provision on intestacy

In re Leach, Deceased
Leach v Lindeman and Others

Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Robert Goff

[Judgment delivered April 3]

A deceased's step-daughter of mature years for whose maintenance the deceased had never assumed responsibility qualified to apply for financial provision out of the deceased's estate, under section 1 of the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Mrs Ivy Alice Lindeman, Mrs Dorothy May Hawkes and Mr Owen William Hill, the defendants, from a judgment of Mr Michael Wheeler, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, given on an application made by the plaintiff, Miss Joan Allison Leach, pursuant to section 2(1) of the 1975 Act.

Mr Robert Wakefield for the defendants; Mr Bernard Weatherill for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that the application concerned the estate of the late Mrs Mary Leach. The deputy judge awarded the plaintiff £19,000 out of Mary's estate. Mary had no children of her own and died intestate on October 7, 1981.

The defendants were her two sisters and brother. They were her personal representatives and next of kin and, subject to the plaintiff's claim, were, in the events which had happened, entitled to the whole of her estate under the law of intestacy.

The plaintiff, who was an able bodied lady of 55, was her stepdaughter.

In 1960, the plaintiff's father, Bertram Leach, after the death of the plaintiff's mother, went to live with Mary (whom he had met some years before) at her home. In May 1960 Bertram made a will, which eventually took effect on his death, by which, after some small bequests to the plaintiff and her brother, he left the residue of his estate to Mary. Bertram and Mary subsequently married.

In November 1974 Bertram died at the age of 88. His estate, the net value of which, as sworn for probate, was about £3,500, passed mainly to Mary in accordance with his 1960 will.

According to the plaintiff's evidence, which the deputy judge accepted, a few months before Mary's death the two of them had a conversation, during which Mary told her that she wished her and a friend to be her executors and that she wished the plaintiff to have half her house.

Mary died intestate in October 1981. In February 1982 letters of administration of her estate were granted to the defendants.

The plaintiff subsequently applied for maintenance out of Mary's estate under the 1975 Act and succeeded in her claim before the deputy judge.

Section 1(1) of the 1975 Act provided: "Where . . . a person dies domiciled in England and Wales and is survived by any of the following persons – (*d*) any person (not being a child of the deceased) who, in the case of any marriage to which the deceased was at any time a party, was treated by the deceased as a child of the family in relation to that marriage; that person may apply to the court for an order under section 2 of this Act on the ground that the disposition of the deceased's estate effected by his will or the law relating to intestacy, or the combination of his will and that law, is not such as to make reasonable financial provision for the applicant."

Section 3(3) of the Act showed that where application was made by virtue of section 1(1) (d) the legislature did not regard the applicant as being necessarily disqualified from applying merely because the deceased had never assumed any responsibility for his or her maintenance, though it contemplated that that would be an obligatory factor for the court to take into account when deciding what, if anything, to award in the exercise of its discretion.

The legislature could not have contemplated that the mere display of affection, kindness or hospitality by a step-parent towards a step-child would by itself involve the treatment by the step-parent of the step-child as a child of the family in relation to the marriage for the purpose of section 1 (1) (d), so as to place the parent and his or her estate under a potential liability to provide for the step-child.

Mr Wakefield submitted that the treatment by one person of another as a child of the family must necessarily involve the treatment of that other person as "an unfledged person".

There was no reason why even an adult person might not be capable of qualifying under that subsection, provided that the deceased had, as wife or husband (or widow or widower) under the relevant marriage, expressly or impliedly, assumed the position of a parent towards the applicant, with the attendant responsibilities and privileges of that relationship.

It was impossible to say that there was no evidence upon which the deputy judge could properly hold that the plaintiff (albeit a lady of mature years) was eligible to apply for financial provision out of this estate.

Lord Justice Robert Goff and Lord Justice O'Connor agreed.

Solicitors: Malcolm Wilson & Cobby, Worthing; Fairfax Barfield & Blincowe, Banbury.

Tax claim fails through year abroad

Reed (Inspector of Taxes) v Clark

Before Mr Justice Nicholls

[Judgment delivered April 1]

A taxpayer, resident in the United Kingdom until April 3, 1978 but thereafter living and working in the United States until returning here on May 2, 1979, was not "a person residing in the United Kingdom" and was not chargeable to income tax for 1978-79 under the provisions of section 108 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970.

Moreover, section 49 of that Act did not authorize an assessment to be made on him because his departure from the United Kingdom was not made for the purpose of his "occasional residence abroad".

Mr Justice Nicholls, in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division, held that the special commissioners had been entitled to discharge four assessments to income tax for 1978-79 totalling £275,700 made on the entertainer, Mr Dave Clark on the basis that he had not been resident or ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom for that year.

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown; Mr Peter Millett, QC and Mr Francis Brennan for Mr Clark.

MR JUSTICE NICHOLLS said that in the 1960s a band formed by Mr Clark, the "Dave Clark Five" enjoyed considerable success. Mr Clark was a British subject domiciled in England. For all the years before and after 1978-79 he was resident in the United Kingdom for tax purposes.

In 1977 a recording company had negotiated a contract with him by which he was to receive US $500,000. Following advice given to him to assist him in avoiding all tax liability which payment of that sum in December 1977 would otherwise create, Mr Clark departed for Los Angeles on April 3, 1978. He did not thereafter set foot in the United Kingdom until May 2, 1979.

The Crown's attack was two-pronged: the first that Mr Clark although abroad throughout the year was nevertheless a person residing here for the year and thus caught by section 108 of the 1970 Act. The second was section 49 (British subjects temporarily aboard) and the Crown argued that Mr Clark had left this country for the "purpose only of occasional residence abroad" and was thus by virtue of the section to be charged as a person residing in the United Kingdom. Both arguments had been rejected by the commissioners.

A person's residence was essentially a question of fact and degree, see *Lysaght v Inland Revenue Commissioners* ([1928] AC 234).

A feature of the case was that Mr Clark did not set foot here during 1978-79. The commissioners stated that from the *Lysaght* case and from *Levene v Inland Revenue Commissioners* ([1928] AC 217), they concluded that to be resident in this country for a tax year a person had to live here for part of that year, although not necessarily in his own abode. The Crown attacked that conclusion as being wrong in law.

"Residence" had no special or technical meaning in the income tax Acts. The task of the fact-finding tribunal was to consider and weigh all the evidence and then, giving to the word "residing" its ordinary meaning, reach a conclusion on the factual question.

The commissioners' formulation of a general rule made it possible for the Crown to mount its argument that the commissioners erred in law. But the criticism of the commissioners' reasoning led nowhere: the true and only reasonable conclusion from the facts was that Mr Clark was not residing in the United Kingdom in the year 1978-79. For that year his home and place of business were in Los Angeles.

Section 49 applied to a British subject whose ordinary residence had been in the United Kingdom but who had left at the time the assessment or charge was made for "the purpose only of occasional residence abroad". The dispute centred on that last phrase and also on whether section 49 was a charging provision at all.

The Crown argued that section 49 was a substantive charging provision that was intended to charge persons who would not otherwise have been chargeable and to embrace some persons who were not resident here at all in the year of assessment.

Mr Millett said that the Crown's case represented a radical departure from established practice and went for beyond any reported decision. He contended that the section was procedural and intended to deal with absence during, but not throughout, a year of assessment.

Doubtless section 49 was a substantive charging provision intended to supplement section 108. However did it apply only to temporary absence during a year or could it apply to an absence extending throughout the year?

There was nothing to show that regardless of the circumstances a person could never be said to have left for "the purpose only of occasional residence abroad" if that residence extended throughout an entire year. A man resident here might go abroad intending to return some months later but through some unforeseen circumstance not return until the following year: such a man might well fall within the section 49. All the circumstances had to be looked at.

More difficult was the case of a person leaving here with the intention of living abroad for a limited period in excess of a year. Could that be "occasional" residence abroad? The meaning that "occasional residence" bore in the section was a question of law.

The most helpful approach was to contrast "occasional residence" with "ordinary residence"; the one being the converse of the other. For the meaning of "ordinary residence" one needed to look no further than the decision of the House of Lords in *R v Barnet London Borough Council, Ex parte Shah* ([1983] AC 309).

From that case it seemed that a resident's departure abroad for only a few weeks or months with the intention of returning to live here as before would always be for the purpose only of "occasional residence". At the opposite end of the scale, departure of such a resident for a limited period of, say, three years would not necessarily be for the purpose only of "occasional residence" just because he intended to return.

Mr Clark left here intending to return a little over a year later: his absence was inherently limited, inherently temporary. Moreover the dates of his departure and return were chosen with United Kingdom tax in mind.

Tax avoidance schemes did not find much favour with the courts today and when deciding issues of residence all the reasons, including a desire to avoid tax, underlying a person's being in a particular place were part of the overall picture. However, residence abroad for a carefully chosen limited period was no less residence abroad for that period because the major reason for it was the avoidance of tax. Likewise with ordinary residence.

There had been a distinct break in the pattern of Mr Clark's life which lasted for just over a year. He ceased living in London and lived and worked in Los Angeles. He did not visit this country at all. On the whole it could not be said that he had left the United Kingdom for the purpose only of "occasional residence" abroad. The commissioners' conclusion on that issue was correct.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Tarlo Lyons.

Minority education can be suitable

Regina v Secretary of State for Education and Science, Ex parte Talmud Torah Machzikei Hadass School Trust

Education provided by a school catering for the special tradition and characteristics of a minority sect within the community would be suitable within the meaning of sections 71 and 76 of the Education Act 1944 if it primarily equipped a child for life within the community of which he was a member rather than the way of life in the country as a whole as long as it did not foreclose the child's option in later years to adopt some other form of life he wished to do so.

Mr Justice Woolf so held in the Queen's Bench Division on April 3, 1985 when refusing an application for judicial review of a notice of complaint made by the secretary of state pursuant to section 71

HIS LORDSHIP said that the school had appealed against the complaint to an independent schools tribunal but contended that judicial review was the more appropriate procedure by which to have the notice quashed.

A number of issues involved issues of fact and opinion which the court was not equipped to deal with. The tribunal was much better equipped to make findings of fact and degree.

Judicial review was not appropriate because although the applicants had been able to show there were certain matters in respect of which the propriety and conduct of the inspectors and secretary of state could be criticized, no clear error of law or approach was established on which a ruling could be given by the court which had the consequence that the applicants were not entitled to the relief which they claimed.

No bias in fair decision

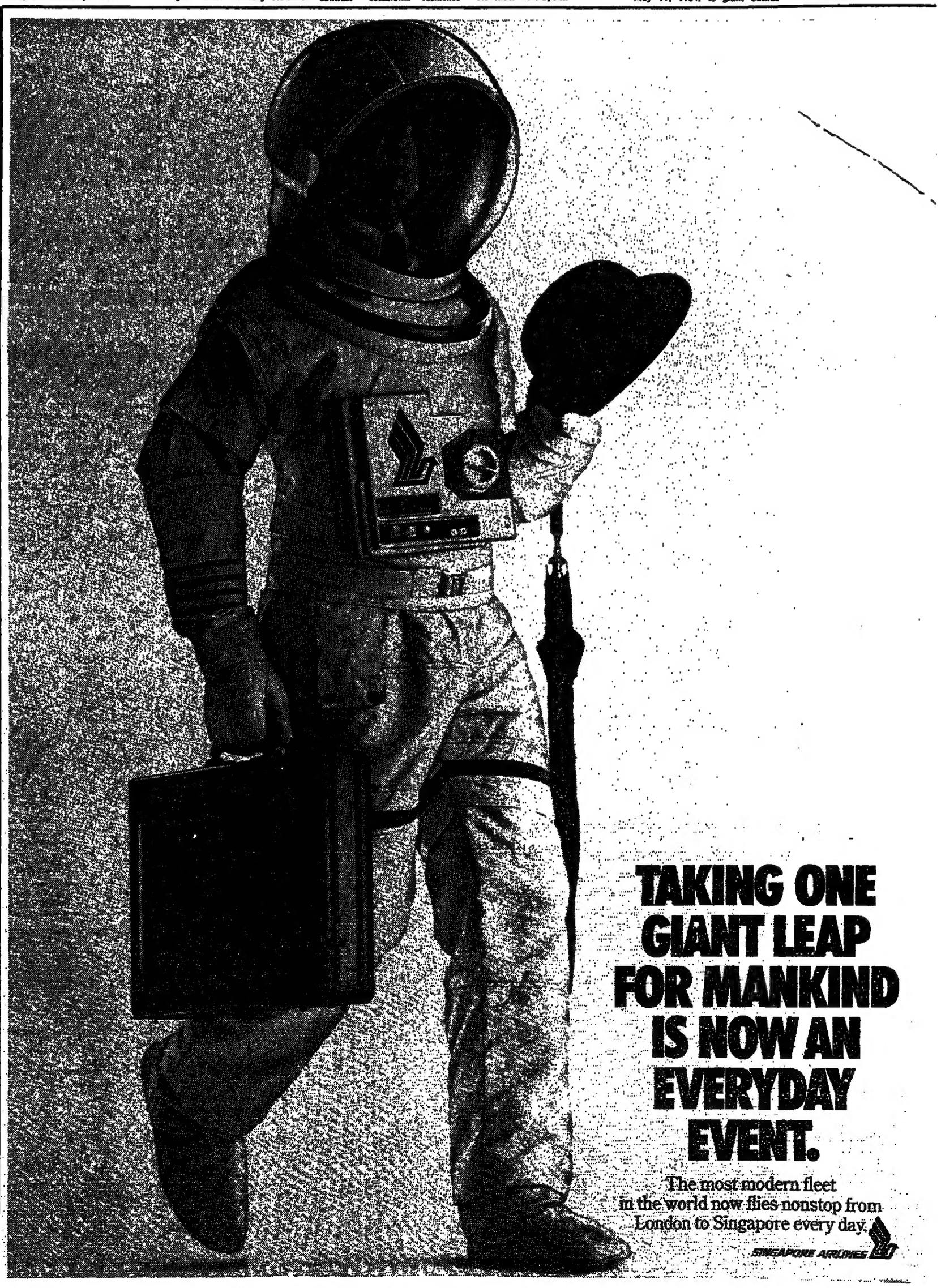
Regina v St Edmondsbury Borough Council, Ex parte Investors in Industry Commercial Properties Ltd

Where a local planning authority had granted planning permission in respect of a site in its control to a company for the erection of a supermarket, and the authority had previously granted a lease of the site to the company, there was no breach of the rules of natural justice in the grant of permission since it had been conceded that the decision had been taken without bias.

Mr Justice Stocker so held in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division on April 2 refusing an application for judicial review of the local authority's decision on May 17, 1984, to grant outline planning permission to J Sainsbury plc.

HIS LORDSHIP said that once it had been conceded that the decision taken was fair, there was no need to inquire further whether a reasonable person with knowledge of all the facts would have considered the authority to be biased in favour of granting permission, as formulated by Mr Justice Webster, in *Steeples v Derbyshire County Council* ([1985] 1 WLR 256, 288F).

The reasoning of Mr Justice Glidewell in *R v Sevenoaks District Council, Ex parte Terry* ([1984] JPL 420) was preferable; therefore, the correct test was to pose the question, did the authority in reaching its decision take into account all proper considerations and exclude all improper ones and reach its decision fairly?



THE ARTS

Theatre

Desolation brought brilliantly into focus

The Trojan Women
Riverside

The final event in the Close-Up of Japan festival (which marks the arrival of a Japanese sponsor, the Mitsui Group, in the field of British arts funding), this is aso the outgoing production of Riverside's founding director, David Gothard – an irreplaceable figure, who piloted the place through a succession of seemingly hopeless crises and built it into an incomparable meeting-place for different arts and different nationalities, only to be cast out on the philistine whim of the GLC. I hope Riverside survives, but this is the worst blow it has suffered so far.

The present show, by the Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT), is a characteristic product of the Gothard regime. A Japanese treatment of a European classic, played with tremendous technical address, and introducing the work of a pioneer director new to this country, Tadashi Suzuki's post-atomic version of *The Trojan Women* is a world theatre event in the same class as the past productions of Kantor, Habib Tanvir, Tereyama and the La Claca group.

In narrow theatrical terms, Suzuki's most obvious purpose is to cross-fertilize the energy and formal mastery of Noh and Kabuki with the content of the otherwise enfeebled modern repertory. What immediately strikes you about his actors is the extent to which they act with their feet. Marches outdo the articulation of the goose-step. A slow Noh-like entrance is the occasion for twisted arabesques that threaten to dislocate the thigh bone.

The Chorus arrive at a sitting crouch, with their legs moving at the speed of sea-coast birds. They are emphatically in contact with the earth, which may account for the energy that quivers through their bodies.

Doubling back and forth between postwar Japan and Euripides's Troy, the piece takes place in the mind of a bereaved old nomad who is periodically possessed by the spirits of Hecuba and Cassandra. This scheme is borrowed straight from the conventions of Noh, whose characters are regularly inhabited by ghosts and demons. It also yields a brilliantly economical means of bringing Grecian and nuclear desolation into the common focus which Sartre struggled unsuccessfully to achieve in his adaptation of the tragedy.

Any expectation of the human pathos in which the piece is usually drenched is defeated from the first arrival of Kayako Shiraishi, facially impassive until she speaks, and then unleashing an avalanche of harsh, rasping lamentation, sometimes in the person of the modern wanderer, sometimes in the voice of the dead. The sensation throughout is that some other spirit is speaking through the person of the visible actress. The fact that the text is incomprehensible throws perhaps unintended emphasis on the physical action. But, thanks to the rigorous formality of the chosen convention, never has *The Trojan Women* appeared less static.

Besides Shiraishi, the other central figure is a Buddhist deity (the guardian of children), and the one image I shall retain is of the old woman going through the surviving domestic items in her bundle, side by side with the saffron-robed immortal: naturalism sharing the space with ritualized formality. More important, it also clinches the fact that Suzuki is not locked into a closed equation of Troy and Hiroshima, but has extended the work to modern Japan, as a cry from the destitute camping out in wastelands of degutted television sets and quadrophonic record players.

Irving Wardle

Dee Conway

Ritualized formality: Uichiro Fueda as the Buddhist god

Cinema

Outward gaiety, inner voids

A Very Moral Night (15)
Berkeley

Unfinished Piece for Mechanical Piano
National Film Theatre

"Pandora's Box" season
National Film Theatre

Kelepey (Gyorgy Cserhalmi) with one of Momma's girls in *A Very Moral Night*

Two eminently enjoyable films from Eastern Europe demonstrate just how much a gifted artist can create out of the slightest material. From Hungary, Karoly Makk's **A Very Moral Night** is based on a short story by Sandor Hunyady, set somewhere towards the end of the *belle époque* of the old Empire. Young Dr Kelepey is the pet of a flourishing Budapest bordello – such a favourite indeed that he is taken in as a regular lodger on the most generous terms. The arrangement goes well until his old mother comes up on a visit from the country. Madame and her young ladies rise handsomely to the occasion, however, staging the very moral night of the title. Mamma returns contentedly home, reassured that her boy is in good hands.

Makk enriches this trifling anecdote. Without ostentatious effort, he recreates the period and the atmosphere: the outward gaiety and awful inner emptiness of the establishment; the hypocrisy and corruption of the local civic dignitaries. Again, without stressing a feminist purpose or compromising the essential comedy of the piece, he offers a quite ferocious exposé of the condescending and exploitative social attitudes of men towards women.

Alongside the conventions, suspense and surprises of old-fashioned situation comedy, he explores all the possibilities of the confrontation between the young sopisticates of the brothel and the old lady. Ironically it is not the old lady who is disturbed, but the girls, shocked into self-examination by an innocence which they have themselves forgotten.

Makk, who made his auspicious feature début 31 years ago, with *Liliomfi*, is today best known in this country for *Another Way* (1982), a brilliant examination of a homosexual relationship between two women. In a peculiarly Hungarian way, he loves and understands women; and all his films contain memorable female portraits. It is in the nature of *A Very Moral Night* that the portrayals are more superficial; even so there are marvellous lightning sketches of the young ladies. Iren Psota's Madame is a wonderful old bass-voiced broad; while Margit Makay, looking and playing uncannily like Fay Compton, skilfully keeps the old mother on the right side of sentimentality.

A Very Moral Night is showing at the new Berkeley, Tottenham Court Road. Older cinemagoers will be pleased to see the name revived; the old Berkeley, along with the Curzon, the Academy and the Hampstead Everyman, gave many of us our first experiences of foreign films.

While being aware of the high reputation of Nikita Mikhalkov's **Unfinished Piece for Mechanical Piano** (1976), I had not succeeded in seeing it until its current British première in the season of the director's work at the National Film Theatre. (It is showing at matinées all next week.) Even knowing the quality of the director's other films, this one comes as a shock, revealing that we have all but forgotten how good Russian film and Russian acting at their best can be.

The film is a highly intelligent and sensitive adaptation by Mikhalkov and Alexander Adabachian of Chekhov's *Platonov* – so successful in the outcome that it is as if Chekhov himself had somehow conceived a film, fifteen years before the cinema existed. The play, in four acts, inordinately long and shapeless, was completed around 1880, but Chekhov (not surprisingly) failed to interest the actress Yermolova of the Maly Theatre in staging it. It was not printed until 1920, by which time the manuscript had lost its cover, so that the name of the principal character was adopted to serve in place of the lost title. It was not performed until the Fifties.

Mikhalkov has distilled from the text the pure Chekhovian film. Here are the familiar decaying estate; the sad, showery summer; the house party of bored, frustrated, idle, stupid, pitiable people; the boding of finality. Amongst the characters we can recognize the conflicting forces that will so soon destroy the old Empire. Always in the background there are the sounds of the passing trains and peasant songs, symbolic respectively of economic and social inevitability.

Platonov is the quintessential Chekhovian hero, instinctively a rebel and idealist but in the end as weak as the people around him, whose frailty and folly he sees with such painful clarity. (In the orignal Platonov is 27 but Mikhalkov, perhaps better to fit his fine actor, Alexander Kaliagin, makes him 34.) Mikhalkov projects a degree of optimism, perhaps not present in the original, in the figure of the little boy whose implied independence and rebellion may point to some future hope.

Visually the film is always ravishing, often breathtaking, most notably in the scenes of the child alone in a rainstorm and of the cuckolded Pavel, too ineffectual even to run away, blubbering in his unhorsed carriage; and in the wonderful juxtapositions of the finale – the dramatis personae, having just rescued Platonov frrm his less than successful attempt to drown himself in six inches of water, stumble aimlessly around the fields, while the naked child sleeps peacefully on.

The acting represents ensemble work at the highest level, and one longs for elucidation of Mikhalkov's methods beyond his slightly enigmatic explanation that "we improvised a great deal, in the way that Bergman does; that's to say during long careful rehearsals, which are the only way to give the team, and particularly the actors, the freedom they need".

The National Film Theatre's four-part panorama of films of the Nazi era is with nice ambivalence called **"Pandora's Box"**. Immediately after the war the films of the preceding decade were banned by the occupying authorities; and subsequently, for forty years, the prolific output of these years remained one of the least known areas of cinema. Historians generally contented themselves with a blanket dismissal of the films of the period as a mixture of tawdry entertainment and vicious propaganda.

If the Nazis intended to win their public with bread and circuses, it must be confessed that the circuses at least were formidable. German entertainment films of the Thirties are the equal of Hollywood in terms of production, script and above all music. The vast majority of them betray no overt propaganda content: the Nazis were smart enough to ensure that audiences kept coming to the cinema. Sometimes propaganda is implicit in a negative way. German actresses, for instance, were only allowed to play nice girls; the roles of vamps, flirts and minxes went to imported players like Marika Rokk or the "Swedish Dumpling", Kristine Söderbaum, wife of Veit Harlan, director of some of the most notorious Nazi propaganda films.

The musical queens of the era were the majestic Zarah Leander and Lillian Harvey. The current NFT selection concentrates on Harvey (1906-1968), born in Muswell Hill to an English mother and a German father, who took the family back to Germany when Lillian was a child. She went on from stage dancing and silent films to become the biggest box-office favourite of the Thirties.

Time enhances the attraction of her fragile prettiness and plaintive singing. The best of her films on show at the NFT are the classic *Congress Dances*, *Three Men and Lillian* and the rich and bizarre musical comedy *Capriccio*. Two more not to be missed are Renate Muller in the original *Viktor und Viktoria* and Ludwig Berger's *Me By Day and You By Night* (1932), with its brilliant parodies of film fashions of the day.

David Robinson

Concerts

Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra/Koopman
Queen Elizabeth Hall

The South Bank's tercentenary series "Celebrating 1685" reached the end of its first leg on Wednesday evening with a concert that (like several others in this well-planned venture) went beyond mere organ music: here a baroque orchestra was imported to play Handel organ concertos and Bach harpsichord concertos under the direction of Ton Koopman.

Koopman is a player who never ceases to amaze: the angularity, the seemingly self-conscious refusal to play four straight beats in the bar one after the other, and his flamboyantly demonstrative manner are all calculated either to irritate or captivate. For much of Wednesday's concert I was captivated, especially in the Handel: Koopman manages to make the organ speak and dance in a perky, breathless manner which owes far more to string and vocal technique than to any tradition of organ playing.

He elaborates exhaustively and at times exhaustingly, covering the gavotte-like finale of the Op 4 No 3 Concerto with torrents of burbling notes. He pulls both speed and rhythm around disconcertingly, but always returns to earth to join his fellow players in the *tuttis*. The Bach pieces, two of the double harpsichord concertos with Tini Mathot, were less comfortable: though the slow movements had been completely rethought in terms of these non-sustaining instruments (and the sublime duet which is more familiar from the Double Violin Concerto was virtually rewritten) the fast movements had rather a bumpy ride, without much sense of phrasing.

There was a completely contrasting style of Bach harpsichord playing later at the Wigmore Hall, where George Malcolm gave the second of three tercentenary recitals. His instrument (and some of the harpsichordal tricks he makes it perform) now sounds dated, but it would be difficult to find more purely musical playing – intelligently thoughtful, paced with a sure sense of architecture – than Mr Malcolm's responsive, satisfying Bach.

Nicholas Kenyon

BBCSO/Groves
Festival Hall/Radio 3

As well as being the final concert of the Royal Philharmonic's season, the programme conducted by Sir Charles Groves with the BBC Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday brought to the audience members of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, at present meeting in national conference. They have "Prospects for Performers" as a subject much on their minds in a discussion forum today for which the concert itself perhaps offered some themes.

The Fifth Symphony of Shostakovich, for instance, brought much eloquent instrumental playing and is possibly the most problematic of his symphonies. This is not so much in the circumstances of its composition in 1937 as "A Soviet artist's reply to just criticism", as the composer defined it, as in relation to the earlier works he then suppressed, and also to those that came after.

If it might be thought the nearest thing to political compromise that Shostakovich entertained, this performance was clearly shaped by the conductor's concern to let it make its own entirely musical case. I should have liked to hear more of the grim desperation that haunts the opening movement and the finale under the surface effects, but the pawky scherzo and stoical slow movement were finely done.

Sir Charles is a past president of the society, as is John McCabe, whose *Shadow of Light* began the programme. A work of substance in spite of its title, it was a tribute to William Boyce, and takes quotations from him to weave into the artful contrivance of a fragmented dream-rhapsody. For all the ingenuity that went into it, the performance in effect lacked some overall conviction.

Not so the playing of Anne-Sophie Mutter in the Violin Concerto by Sibelius. She knew precisely what she wanted and how to obtain it through masterful control over dynamics as well as phrasing, treating the central movement merely as an intermezzo between the turbulent passions of its neighbours.

Noël Goodwin

Opera

The Marriages Between Zones 3, 4 & 5
The Place

Adapting one of Doris Lessing's visionary parables into a two-act chamber opera always seemed a formidable proposition. Put crudely, the novel preaches the necessity for cultures alien to each other (specifically a male-dominated military people and a female-led "creative" society) to remove the barriers between them, intermingle, and learn from each other if they are not to stangnate. This profound change is accomplished after a series of remarkably sustained love-making bouts between the countries' respective monarchs.

Lessing offers plenty of cues for a song: a mystical drum-beat recurs throughout, for instance, and there is a Jungian emphasis on children's rhymes. These the composer Paul Barker has siezed upon – particularly the latter which, sung confidently by girls from Croydon High School, provide some of the opera's most apposite moments.

The novel's chief strength, however, lies in its rich, multi-layered descriptions of several imaginary landscapes and nations, and this neither Barker's own libretto nor Christopher Newell's rather too minimal staging could emulate. Characters become cyphers, the book's subtle philosophical themes are condensed into slogans, and the story becomes fragmented into a series of symbolic tableaux.

Yet Barker's score, for nine-piece band and four principal singers, is not without its own telling reverberations. His identification of characters with instruments acquired a more sophisticated potency than initially seemed likely, and some of his percussion writing had a particularly expectant quality.

Under Christopher Willis's baton the music seemed properly sorted out apart from some problems of balance, and the singers projected their sometimes angular lines creditably. Christine Barker floated her high passages of arioso securely, while Julie Wilde found at least a little earthiness in what, I think, was supposed to be a sexy song.

Richard Morrison

Television

The buried truths

TV Eye (ITV) last night was devoted to a report on the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon which added pictures to some of the incidents described by the *Times* reporter Robert Fisk in his recent reports from Beirut.

At the beginning of the programme the film showed an Israeli armoured patrol cruising with fingers on machine-gun triggers. As the luck of the programme-makers ran, this convoy was attacked by a wire-detonated bomb and British television viewers were able to see the Israelis' response – a blizzard of "suppressive fire" and a sweep for suspects which rounded up 50 people from the immediate area; some of these were later seen, hooded and awaiting questioning, in one of the Israeli camps.

The reporter, Julian Manyon, swiftly went on to indicate the depth at which the truth of the Israeli withdrawal and the fierce response of Lebanon's new Shia Muslim faction was buried.

No sooner had we heard the screams of a four-year-old girl with a bullet wound in her leg, and seen a similar wound in the face of a very old woman and bullet holes in the rear of the hospital in which they were treated, than an Israeli officer appeared to allege that the hospital was controlled by Shia militia and would only treat patients whose wounds were said to be caused by Israeli guns.

Beirut tenements plastered with posters of Ayatollah Khomeni were as eloquent as shots of destruction in villages of South Lebanon, where the biblical ideal of no brick left standing on another seemed effectively translated for the breeze-blocks and concrete of suspected terrorist homes.

In one area there seemed to be some agreement. "I am not dealing here with human beings – they are terrorists and they don't have human feelings", said the Israeli officer commanding the attacked patrol. "Suicide attacks are the operations that terrified the Israelis. They cannot understand how a human being would die in such a manner for the services of Islam and Allah", said a 19-year-old girl whose fiancé had been the first martyr to die in this manner.

The same girl said she wanted to be the first woman suicide bomber, an honour which this week fell to another, even younger, girl.

The historical context of these events was, of necessity in a half-hour programme, dealt with in a few sentences. It seems strange that the ITV controllers feel that their audience is unable to cope with more than 30 minutes on this complex and prolonged struggle – even with a repeat of *Minder* scheduled first as a sweetener.

Celia Brayfield

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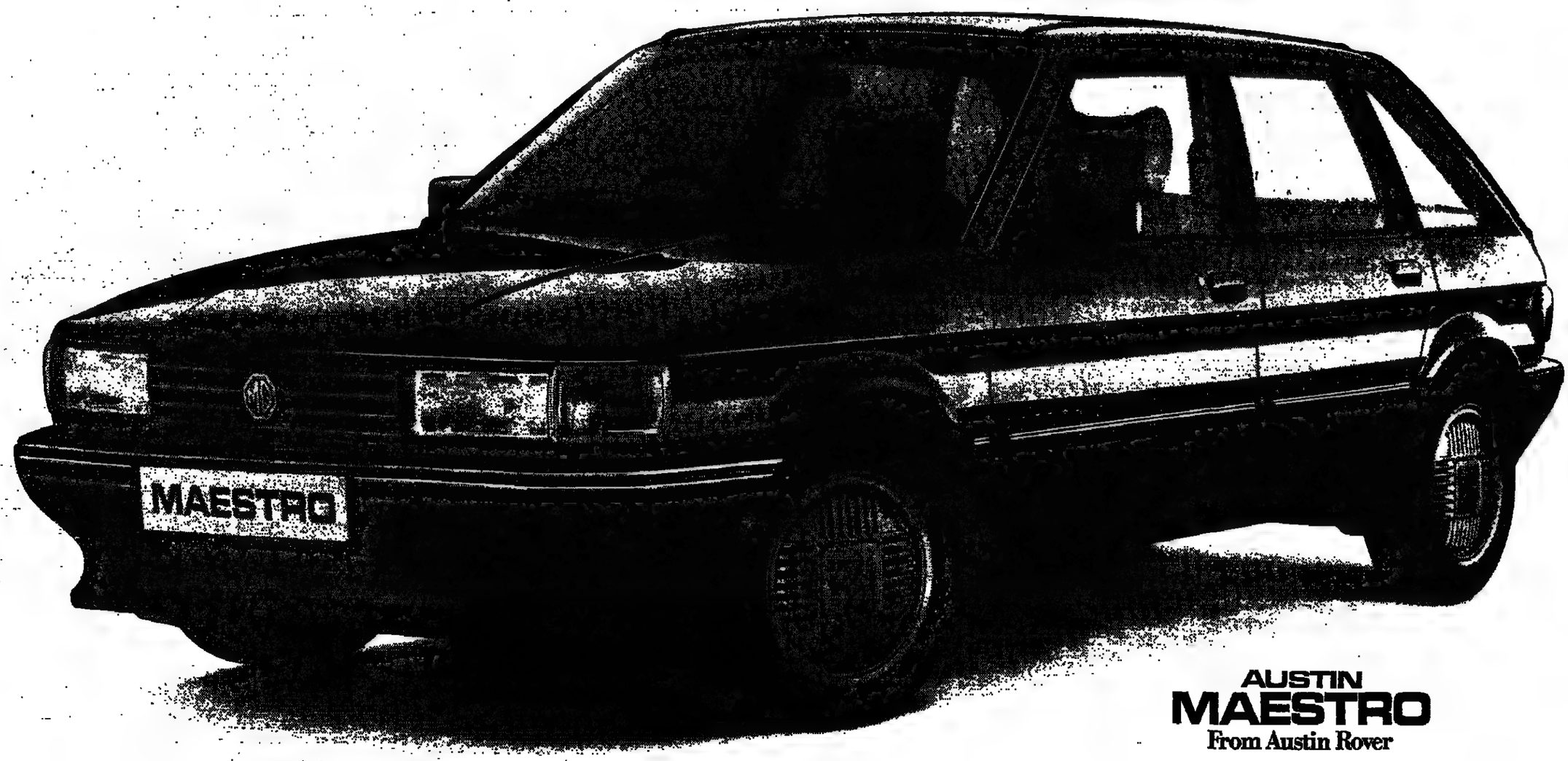

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SPECTRUM

Survival without hope: the new reality

'Nine people died in the night. Only nine. There was a time when more than a hundred died every day in Korem.' Paul Vallely describes Ethiopia's largest refugee camp, where, despite the lower death toll, every day is still one of waiting and wretched resignation

Another day: a refugee greets the dawn by the thousand tents of Korem

It is 6am. A chill dawn creeps over the mountains that glower intimidatingly all round the vast plateau of Korem and the camp huddling, unprotected, in the centre of its plains. The growing light reveals a layer of mist, white and impenetrable and distinct as a geological stratum. The coldness, the local people call it. It hangs like a judgement over Ethiopia's largest refugee camp.

The new day steals shamefacedly across the serried lines of tents, uncovering a tableau of indignity, suffering and wretched resignation that the darkness had disguised. There are almost one thousand tents here, improvised from sticks, and large plastic sheets erected over pits dug 2ft down into the hard, black earth that was once prime crop-growing land. On average 40 men, women and children live packed in each one; the proximity helps to preserve warmth.

With the start of another day the refugees shake themselves into movement. In their open-ended dwellings they shiver as they remove the blankets and thick *shammas* that protected them from the sub-zero temperatures of the highland night. They bare their pitiful sagging skin for a few moments as they don thinner white garments, which later in the day will absorb some of the anger of the hostile sun.

In the distance the funeral parties can be seen. Nine people died in the night. Only nine. There was a time when more than a hundred died every day in Korem, but that was in the months when thousands of starving and diseased peasant farmers arrived each day, many of them beyond help. Now Korem is no longer a place of crisis, but, of dogged drudgery and hopeless survival. There are no peasant farmers here now; just camp-dwellers, who seem to have forgotten everything except how to scratch a living through another day. Many of them have been here for 10 months, some longer. Nine deaths is just part of the new reality that is camp life.

Waiting is what happens in Korem, waiting for the clinic to open, waiting for admission to the feeding programme, waiting for attention in the crowded hospital sheds, waiting for the preparation of the high-energy food for the badly malnourished, waiting for the government distribution of food that did not come yesterday, does not come today and probably will not come tomorrow.

Everywhere there are queues or else great herds of people, penned inside black plastic fences designed to bring some order to the milling chaos of bodies. Between the hospital sheds they sit and wait, sometimes glancing up with a feeble curiosity as relief workers move quickly by. In their tents they sit and wait, their features washed by blank indifference. In desultory groups across the unsheltered plains they sit, in the full heat of the day, and wait for the temporary release of food or the permanent one of death.

Outside one tent crouches Aberbe Gabru. There is grey in the tight curls of his dark hair and his beard is grizzled, but he does not look the 70 years he claims. They are hardy, these mountain people, and once they have passed the age of five, below which half the children die, they can in normal times live to a good age. Before him Gabru has five scrappy bundles of wood. He squats on the hard ground and surveys them.

"What are these for?" I ask my interpreter. The old man looks mystified as the question is translated.

"They are firewood", he says.

"Where did he get them?"

"From the hills."

"How long did it take him?"

"Two days. Every time he goes for firewood he must walk further."

"Where did he sleep last night in the hills?"

"Between the rocks."

"What will he do with them now? Sell them?"

The old man makes no reply, but looks at me and then at the pathetic piles of sticks. He wants me to buy a bundle, although the sticks are of no use to me. I give him two tattered and soiled banknotes that seem impregnated with the misery of his entire nation. He is elated. It is far more than he could have expected from a local sale. The two *birr* will buy him enough grain, even at the grossly inflated prices of Korem market, to last him with frugal use for a couple of weeks. In London, they would not have bought me a glass of wine.

At 9am the expatriate relief workers from the Save the Children Fund, and doctors and nurses from the French organization, Médecins Sans Frontières, arrive from their ramshackle hotels in the town. They listen to the reports of the local people they employ as field workers. In the feeding camps the news is that there will not be enough food to give today's 7,520 malnourished children the six daily meals they need. Two will have to be omitted, the local SCF co-ordinator, Ato Fekadu, reports.

The nightwatchmen in the hospital wards who all wear, almost as a badge of office, grotesque floral kipper-ties, fashionable imports in the time when the Emperor Haile Selassie held Ethiopia in communion with the West, report to the medics on who has died and who has been badly ill in the night.

Dr Serge Bechet is not long out of medical school. Like all the French medics, he is in his late twenties; the career structure for doctors in France is such that the only time they can easily volunteer for Third World service is between college and their first job. Korem is a baptism of blood: the patients and problems are so many.

The young doctor shrugs: "There is only one problem here, starvation. People are dying of dysentery, pneumonia, typhus and relapsing fever, but what they really die of is hunger. The average weight of an adult here is 34 kilos, half the weight of a healthy person. What we need is more food. We are discharging people when they are better and they go out and get no food and become ill again."

In the Save the Children Fund centre, the charity's field director, Kathy Bogan, is briefing her staff before she leaves on a two-day visit to the SCF camp in Kobbo and the towns of Kombolcha and Dese, the sites of the massive provincial warehouses that store the grain brought in from the port of Assab, where aid is unloaded. Although reports are that the warehouses are full, grain has not been reaching Korem in sufficient quantities for the last six weeks. Kathy Bogan wants to know why.

"What we need is more food. We are discharging people when they are better and they go out and get no food and become ill again"

Save the Children has six fully-trained nutritionists in the camps, along with 50 Ethiopian auxiliaries and 120 peasants recruited in a Food For Work programme, which offers grain in return for help in the camps' gigantic kitchens. As Kathy sets out, her team begin their daily tasks.

There are about a hundred newcomers today. They need to be weighed and measured to determine the degree of malnourishment, and allocated to one of three feeding programmes. After the new admissions there are 742 children who are up to 20 per cent underweight; in the non-intensive shed they are given two high-protein biscuits, 500 grams of rice porridge and a quarter of a bread pancake.

There are 5,815 more little specimens of skin and bone who, in the relativity of starvation, are classified as "moderately malnourished": they are between 20 and 30 per cent underweight and should receive six high-energy drinks made up of soya wheat flour, butter oil, dried skimmed milk, sugar and boiled water, plus two meals each of biscuits, porridge and *kitta*. Then there are 963 children who are "critically malnourished" – more than 30 per cent underweight – who should be given the same food as those in the intensive shed, plus six double-helpings of the drink.

Supplies have been cut, however, by the Ethiopian government, which claims a transport shortage, though many relief workers suspect that the stoppage is deliberate to starve the peasants into "volunteering" for the Dergue's controversial resettlement scheme. Either way the result is that 6,778 children will receive four tiny meals today instead of the six their frail bodies need. There are some who are too ill to care: today there are 87 being fed through naso-gastric drips.

After feeding allocation, the newcomers cross to the de-lousing unit where their clothes are steamed for 20 minutes, their skin treated and their hair shaved. "Many people find it shameful, but it has to be done", says the Ethiopian worker at the door of the roofless tent. We do not go in to watch.

Back at the hospital, a young Belgian midwife, Ines Huberty, is busy in the maternity ward. She works in jeans and a T-shirt, her long curly hair uncombed. She has already delivered four babies today. "Life goes on, even here", she says. "Besides, the birth of a child is one of their few happinesses. Most women have already lost so many."

She works with a matter-of-fact speed, interrupted by the odd burst of affection as she lifts one of the shrivelled infants and plants a kiss on its forehead. At the moment she is crouching over what looks like a new-born baby, though she says it is eight months old: "Her name is Hada. She was completely malnourished when she arrived three months ago, and had bronchial pneumonia. Now she takes on some weight, then gets diarrhoea and loses it. I am trying to fix an intravenous unit to rehydrate her, but I can't find a vein big enough to put the needle in. She is so small. Look."

The little girl's bulbous head, her arms, legs, are covered with veins bruised and raised by her attempts. Finally, she shifts a silver foil package that is getting in the way and successfully fixes the drip in the child's fragile arm, no thicker than a man's index finger. What is in the package? "A baby."

She opens the package to reveal a tiny, tiny human being: "It will die. It is too small, it came very early. In Europe it would be in an incubator, in Africa it will die."

It is past midday now, the seventh hour as the highlanders call it, using a clock that has not changed since biblical times. The relief workers have returned to their hotel for lunch. The French eat tinned paté, tuna fish, salami with rice and a salad of tinned beans and tomatoes. "Trust the French to eat well", I laugh. "What do you expect?" replies a pretty French nurse, detecting an unintended accusation in my comment. "If we ate as the people did we should weaken, catch the illnesses and be of no use to anyone."

At the camp, Ato Fekadu is organizing the sorting of the food for tomorrow's cooking. In the compounds, groups of two or three thousand people are sitting in rows on the ground, waiting patiently, placidly, with more hope than expectation, for they know there will not be enough food to go round. There never is. Still they sit there, ignoring the fact that at the transit camp a mile down the road they would be given two cooked meals a day if they went to volunteer for resettlement in the south-west of the country.

In the children's ward a young Frenchwoman with the worried smile of an earnest sixth-former is looking at a two-year-old child. Dr Valerie Schwoebel is 29 and a fully-qualified paediatrician. "She is much better. She is doing fine", she says.

"This little girl is called Sege. I have to confess she is one of my favourites. When she arrived months ago she was badly starved and we fed her up. Three weeks ago she developed measles and we got her through that. Then, three days ago, she developed pneumonia: weak children often do after measles. I had to use an aspirator to remove fluid that had accumulated in her lungs. But I think she will be OK."

She bends down and touches the sleeping child gently on the head. It is a gesture of love. The doctor smiles. She does not know that tomorrow morning she will stare in disbelief at an empty bed. Sege is to die tonight.

The government's chief official from the local office of the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission is wandering through the camp on a tour of inspection. Yeshitila Demerraw is kind and genial, but cowed by the Party man, a weasel-faced character who dogs his every step.

"There is no food, yes. There is none in the warehouses." Yet the United Nations officials, who have just completed a survey, say that the warehouses nearest to Korem are full to the ceiling. Yeshitila seems genuinely perplexed. "I did not know that. I have not been told that."

"In any case, we have no transport. We have one lorry. You will have seen it broken down on the mountain road." I had, but Colonial Mengistu, the Ethiopian leader, had promised that Army trucks would be used now. Yeshitila looks worried: "I have not been told that. People do not tell me these things. I just have to do the best I can."

He does. As we walk we come across four women and a man who sit in a half circle, moaning as they rock back and forth, repeating some wailing litany. "It is a funeral", he explains. "They are telling of the qualities of life of the woman who died and was buried this morning."

This is the reality I have been avoiding all day. I steel myself and walk across to the woman who is obviously the chief mourner. I stand there, a silent but brutal interruption.

"My intrusion seems no more barbarous than all the others forced upon her in recent months"

She is a small woman, strikingly beautiful, with the fine, sculpted features of the Abyssinian highlander. Her ears are pierced, but now they are bare of the jewellery that had been in her family for generations. It was the last thing to go, but it had been sold that morning to buy the swaddling bands for her sister's burial. She looks up at me. There are tears in her eyes, but no accusation. Perhaps my intrusion seems no more barbarous than all the others that life has forced upon her in recent months.

"Who has died?" I ask. "Her sister", translates the RRC man.

"Where was she buried?"

"In the Coptic cemetery, over the plains."

All the women are looking at me now. I notice one of them has a growth the size of a large grapefruit in her throat, the result of protein deficiency. The appalling goitre holds my gaze like a magnet. "What did she die of?"

"The illness, in the stomach."

"When did she last eat?"

"Not for a long time."

"When did she last receive a food distribution from the government?" The RRC man repeats my question in Amharic. He knows the shortcomings of his own government and does not fudge the answer. "Six weeks ago."

"Thank you", I say, inadequately, to the woman. I bow to her, to the women, to the man, and walk away. The sun is being swallowed by another land beyond the mountains. Dusk falls as quickly as a curtain in these highlands. As the gloom descends, the rocking orisons of the mourners rise again into the air and mingle with the blue smoke of a thousand tiny fires. Soon the coldness will be upon the camp once more.

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How the US gave Britain a dressing down

Bill Kay looks at the cut-throat world of international fashion as French Connection publishes its profits

Above: From French Connection's summer collection. Top left: Stephen Marks.

The huge international success of British fashion is creating a backlash in the rag trade's most lucrative market – the United States.

Last year UK firms sold clothing and accessories worth £118m to the US, nearly double the figure for 1983. But last autumn the Americans decided to play tough in an effort to slow down the flood of imports sparked off by the strength of the dollar.

British clothes have been in fashion across the world for the best part of 20 years. The boom has generated a crop of millionaires, like Laura Ashley and French Connection's Stephen Marks.

Another is Zandra Rhodes: the robbery of her latest collection from the showrooms was another sign of the foreign vogue for the English look.

But that success has brought its own problems. The first was copying in the Far East. Styles which grace the catwalks at the big shows in London or Paris are made into copies at a fraction of the price in Hong Kong and can be in western shops the following week. To counter that, and take advantage of the low wages out there, more and more British fashion houses are having their designs made up in the Orient.

Then British rag trade attacked the American market, the biggest consumer pic in the world. Last year that trend reached crisis point. Everyone was rushing to cash in on the strong dollar. So the public sat back and let the retailers fight over them for the business.

One of the main groups of American department stores is British-owned. Saks Fifth Avenue, Marshall Field, Gimbels and Kohl's are all under the umbrella of BAT Industries, the tobacco giant. BAT's finance director, Alan Long, explained: "The whole of the apparel retailing business over there was depressed last year. That made everyone cut their inventories, leading to price-cutting and special promotions."

That was fine for the American shopper, but the trade has begun to squeal. While business has been brisk, the latest figures show that profit margins of US stores and clothes firms have been mercilessly squeezed. Macy's, J.C. Penney, Levi Strauss and Nike are among the big names over there which have suffered.

Adding a tide of imports to that produced an explosion. A pressure group was formed, called the Fibre, Fabric and Apparel Coalition for Trade (FACT). This group pointed out that more than 200,000 jobs have been lost in the US textile trade since 1980, and it called for a clamp on imports. As a stopgap, last October the US Customs and Excise introduced a new web of red tape to hold imports at the docks.

Some British firms have found it too much. Gabicci, the north London firm which makes men's casual wear, has pulled out of the US. Davie Pyser, the joint managing director, said: "To export to the US is practically impossible. Here, if you deliver a week late you might get a phone call tearing you off a strip. But there, if you are a day late and it suits them, they will cancel. If you argue, they say, OK, how about a 20 per cent discount? There is no give and take. Over there, it's all take and no give."

But other British fashion houses are still prepared to take on the Americans at their own game. French Connection's shares tripled on the Stock Exchange's unlisted securities market last year, making its chairman, Stephen Marks, worth £40m at one time. But in recent weeks the shares tumbled as word filterd out that competition in the US was taking its toll.

Yesterday Marks disclosed that his US operation had turned in a profit of $5.4m for the year to this January, compared with $7.6m for the year to June 1984. He admitted: "Trading over there was bloody difficult and it is still difficult. The Lerner shops chain has just cancelled $50m of business, though luckily we were not involved in that."

One way to beat the American shopkeeper is to join him. Jaegar has been exporting to the US since the 1930s, but 13 years ago they began to open their own shops over there. In 1980 they stopped selling wholesale altogether in the US.

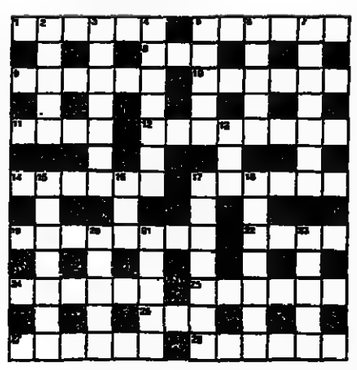
Peter Chalcraft, Jaeger's merchandise and marketing director, explained: "The department stores have cut their own necks by going in for price discounting. The result is that no one believes that the original price is the real one. The stores are simply losing credibility through this."

Jaeger has 62 shops throughout the US, and is planning to open another 10 this year.

Marks has taken the point and started opening a chain of French Connection shops. He already has half a dozen sprinkled through Manhattan, and tomorrow he is opening a seventh in Westwood, California. "We have to take control of our own destiny," he says.

Full profit results – Business News, page 17.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 617)



ACROSS
1 Theatre balcony (6)
5 Cut out bone (6)
8 Pigeon noise (3)
9 Matter (6)
10 Small fowl (6)
11 Sheer fall (4)
12 Bechuanaland (8)
14 Passionate (6)
17 Yearly records (6)
19 "Trout" composer (8)
22 Kiss and cuddle (4)
24 Wheel plate (6)
25 Idea (6)
26 Hundred score (3)
27 Stalwart (6)
28 Hope (6)

DOWN
2 Put forward (5)
3 Grope (7)
4 Tumbler (7)
5 Automaton (5)
6 Tendon (5)
7 Navigable course (7)
13 Philippines cardinal (3)
15 Enlist (7)
16 Point (3)
17 Aerial (7)
18 Continuous (7)
20 Open sore (5)
21 Void (5)
23 Church singers (5)

SOLUTION TO No 616
ACROSS: 8 Alpha Centauri 9 Ale 10 Haphazard 11 Tress 13 Entitle 16 Deplore 19 Lambs 22 Frivolous 24 Dam 25 Schutzstaffel
DOWN: 1 Vacant 2 Sphere 3 Machismo 4 Temple 5 Stoa 6 Mutant 7 Middle 12 Rue 14 Talisman 15 Lob 16 Defuse 17 Plight 18 Egoist 20 Modify 21 Sample 23 Oats

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FRIDAY PAGE

Pakistan's leader in waiting

Her father was executed by the military, and she spent four years in detention and prison. Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's exiled heir apparent, told Angela Brooks of her continuing struggle

The gaunt, grey 41-storey London flat block where wind rushes round hallways and the cosmic-looking lift button console has gone kaput, is an odd choice of home for the de facto leader of a Pakistani political party.

Benazir Bhutto, the 31-year-old heir apparent to the nation's leadership doesn't think much about it. The striking daughter of the executed Pakistan President Zulfakir Ali Bhutto has lived here ever since she was released from detention in Pakistan, in desperate need of medical help, more than a year ago.

Recently her disenfranchised nation has become a fixture on the foreign news pages. Two months ago, the first time in seven years military dictator General Zia ul-Haq decreed "non-party elections" would take place - the first step in a gradual phase-out of martial law. Heady with the promise of a return to normality, more than 50 per cent of Pakistanis ignored the boycott calls of Miss Bhutto and others in the 11-party opposition alliance, the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, and voted.

"She has a fierce intelligence and a quicksilver temperament"

If Miss Bhutto's chances of ascension to leadership in the foreseeable future seemed slim then, now they are even worse. The pledge the 61-year-old head of state made to vest real power in his newly elected Assembly has turned out to be as she predicted, a fiction.

"We say this new Assembly represents no one, therefore General Zia won't be able to lift martial law", Miss Bhutto said. "He can't permit fundamental rights because he doesn't have the support of his people. If he permits a return of political activities, then it will give the opposition the chance to overthrow him."

The thought must have occurred to General Zia too because after the election he launched his iron-clad measures for preventing just that. In one fell swoop he vindicated the calls for boycott and wiped out the country's new-found optimism by announcing amendments to the 1973 Constitution that essentially lay waste to his new government's powers and guarantee him carte blanche as president under the civilian rule he has pledged to implement in the next few months.

Benazir Bhutto, one-time president of the Oxford Union with politics degrees from Oxford and Harvard, clearly luxuriates in the hot-house atmosphere of her flat as the world's press comes calling for comment on events in Pakistan.

Intent on bringing to a close an interview with a distinguished-looking Pakistani visitor twice her age, she snaps out her answers in an effortless mixture of her native Urdu and English. That done, she assigns him on an errand on her behalf. "This will be your homework", she says, standing up with finality.

Although she feels vindicated by the country's boycott of Zia and his cohorts at the polls, she is unrelenting in her condemnation of those who actually defied the boycott to run for office, calling them "stooges" for martial law.

"If you take part in an election which denies public meetings, denies freedom of expression and throws hundreds of party leaders in jail, then you are tacitly endorsing the regime," she says.

And she rules out in no uncertain terms the option of working from within: "On what terms can you collaborate with these people?" she demands. "It's like asking Jews to collaborate with Hitler. It's out of the question."

She is possessed of a fierce intelligence and a quicksilver temperament, never more evident than now as she bectors and cajoles her way through a conversation. She sits perched raven-like on the edge of the sofa, ever at the ready, sometimes examining her short, red-polished nails. It is said that top government officials live in fear of her return and the pound of flesh she will have at the reckoning.

Of that eventuality, she says without much conviction: "We don't want revenge. But surely the people of my country deserve justice? President Bhutto was not just my father. He was the elected Prime Minister. If General Zia says, 'Yes, I committed murder. Now I ask for mercy', that would be one thing. But if he says, 'No, it was not murder' – then obviously we would need to have an inquiry.

"Days before the election, the Pakistani papers were full of reports of Zia saying he would be prepared to barter with all the other political parties, as long as my mother and myself were excluded", she says. "He just knows that if we are there, he can't rule. So he wants to exclude us so he can play everybody else off against each other to retain control."

The cachet of the Bhutto family name has been compared with that of the Kennedys. Although the military has seized their charitable foundation and press and is challenging their rights to their vast estates in Larkana and Karachi, their wealth in any language is still immense. If there is a paradox in the daughter of this patrician family preaching the politics of the masses, then Miss Bhutto fails to see it.

None of it, at any rate, would be fitting reparation for the personal toll on her family as a result of the military. Both Miss Bhutto and her mother, Begum Nasrat Bhutto, now 55, were in detention and imprisoned in the worst of Pakistan's prisons – Miss Bhutto for a total of almost four years.

As for her father, she will no longer talk about details leading up to his execution which took place in April 1979. "I felt in the beginning that it was my duty to let people know what had been done to him", she says. "Now I feel I have done that and my grief is my own."

But she is still unwavering in her conviction that the ousted president, so debilitated by weight loss and illness, died in a fracas with some soldiers in his Rawalpindi prison cell before he was taken to the gallows.

The remaining family members are scattered across the globe. Brothers Shahnawaz and firebrand Murtaza, founder and leader of the terrorist group Al-Zulfakir, now lives in hiding in the Middle East. The only apolitical family member, Sanam, is a Pakistani housewife and the long-suffering Begum Nasrat now lives in France, suffering from lung cancer and unable to talk as a result of a botched operation.

The effect of this grim catalogue of disaster has been to harden her resolve. "The horrors have become a part of me", she says. "There is a language of suffering. If you have suffered you understand the language. If not, no amount of explaining will help."

She has tried to wipe out the memories. She says she only succeeds in burying them. The one that comes back to haunt her is of the stark fear written across the faces of her jailers – petrified lest she would, like her father before her, perish on their hands.

The other memories she will share are safe, if poignant, predictors of her character. She vividly recalls being hauled off to hospital from prison in Karachi in 1981 when officials had told her that she was to be taken home:

"I couldn't believe I was going to see my house after the jail and the insects and no proper water", she says. "The thought of it was like going to heaven. Instead though they took me to hospital. But on the way, we passed a little wayside restaurant where they had a radio on and I could hear the song. It passed so quickly but for that minute, I remember trying so hard to catch the words – all that is taken away from you when you are in prison. You die for the sight of another human being. It's about relevance. Do you exist? Are you dead or alive? That's what goes through your mind."

"There will be no turning back for me until we see the end of Zia"

In response to a question, she insists she wasn't born to rule. Circumstances, she says, transformed her. Regardless, her father recognized a quality in her, true to this day, before those brutal rites of passage.

She tells a story about meeting a man in France some months ago who claimed against her protestations that they had met before many years before. "He told me it had been in Washington when I had visited the White House with my father", she says. "He said that I was at one end of the room, talking to Kissinger and my father was at the other end and he said to this man, 'Look, look at the young girl there. She is my daughter and like me, she is a fighter. She will fight for me!'"

She is not one for mawkish feelings but as she tells the tale, her long, brown eyes well with tears.

He was right, of course. He knew his daughter well.

"The only thing that keeps me going is that I look to the day when he will be vindicated", she says. And the emphasis on the "he" seems intentional.

"There comes a point when there is no turning back. There will be no turning back for me until we see the end of Zia. Zia has the force. We don't. But he will have to go one day. That is the reality of history. Zia may think he has five more years. Maybe he won't even have five more days. Let's pray for it."

She stands up and the bare light bulb hanging from the centre of the ceiling glints off her birilliant blue satin Shalwar Kameez the Moslem dress and trousers. She smiles that dazzling smile and turns for pictures beside the poster of her "martyred" father in another room. There is a call for her to stand a certain way and to look just so. "I can't", she says laughing. "I can't pose." One can't help but feel that that is a telling statement.

Dod Miller

Benazir Bhutto in London: 'The horrors have become part of me'

Benazir and her father, awaiting the verdict of his appeal against the death sentence in Rawalpindi

Why women's work is a dirty word

FIRST PERSON

Brenda Ann Smith

Now and again, when I was working in Glasgow, I'd hear a man saying, "Oh, the wife's got her wee job." Sometimes it was the woman herself: "I've got this nice wee job." I'd be a bit startled, especially if I happened to know the job was full-time and truly hard work. The only thing wee about these jobs was the wages.

I was doing one of them myself, recently, and can tell you the attitude prevails unchanged and is not restricted to Glasgow.

Of course a wee job sometimes is part-time, smaller in hours, but that isn't why they use the word. And generally it is something unimportant, like cleaning in a hospital or feeding and bathing old folk – but that's not why they use the word, either.

Calling the wife's job wee is a quiet, mutually tactful way of conserving the husband's dignity as main wage earner. It also justifies the more-than-likelihood it's she who comes home to make the tea, see the kids' clothes are washed, and so on. The wife's wee job is only wee because her big job is keeping the house. Employment is a side-line.

I am not complaining about husbands, who are nowadays mostly fair about sharing the housework. But running the household is still left to the woman. In her coffee break at work she's thinking, "Sausages tonight. Beans and chips. Check Alan's football kit" while her husband is just chatting about horses. The wife has the responsibility. If her wee job is part-time, she's got one and a half jobs. If she has a full-time wee job she's got two.

And don't think for a minute her employment's not taxing. Consider, for instance, the job of a shop assistant in a big store – not a manager, an ordinary, menial shopgirl. She has to learn how to handle electronic tills, cheques, credit cards and house accounts. She has to learn to control the flow of stock and how to stack it so it sells.

She has to memorize prices and price-changes and know where they have put the shampoos today. To underpin these skills, she must have physical strength, energy and stamina, for standing, lifting and carrying. Thus all her mental, physical and emotional faculties are used up for, say, £1.85 an hour.

If standards are falling, if shop-workers are not so courteous as they once were, perhaps it's because women are beginning to feel they are not being paid enough to work that hard. Especially when their men are not working that hard, for a lot more money. Or when their men aren't working at all.

Now, the wee jobs are all that is available. Go in to a Job Centre and see what the average unemployed person can hope for. Secretarial, domestic, catering . . . Men and university graduates are going for the wee jobs, if they are that brave.

So what can we do? Send the women out to work at their wee jobs leaving their men at home with housekeeping instructions? No, because the wages are not enough to keep a family; no, because in this generation the wife still assumes responsibility for the housekeeping, and why should she have two jobs? And no, because the more wee jobs are available, the more they are broken up in to part-time jobs.

It is cheaper to employ two part-time persons, than one full-time. You get faster, harder work out of two people working for four hours than out of people working eight hours. And they don't worry so much about not being unionized. They don't have the job-dedication that a full-timer might have, but that is by the way.

The jobs still available, the wee jobs, are by invidious process being broken up into part-time jobs, the ones you don't pay tax on, that have no place in any career structure, that couldn't even be thought of as permanent work, that earns you about £30 a week. It's nice there are these jobs around with which wives of working husbands can supplement their incomes. But there is a far greater need for full-time employment for all the non-working husbands.

Three things need to be done. The first is to give employers the incentive to offer full-time instead of part-time jobs. At least, some of the disincentives should be abolished.

The second is more vague and difficult. Someone should launch a quiet advertising campaign reminding everyone what hard, worthwhile, demanding, estimable jobs the wee jobs in reality are.

The third one is very fanciful. The government should make a careful list of which jobs the ordinary man and woman categorize as wee. Then it should double the minimum wage for each one of them – so that the jobs that are available become jobs that self-respecting breadwinners, male or female, can self-respectingly support their families on.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

The bypass dilemma

Heart disease is the biggest single cause of death in Britain. In 1983 it claimed almost 175,000 victims but experts still cannot agree on the best method of treatment.

Cardiologists do agree that coronary arterial bypass is excellent symptomatic treatment for angina which has failed to respond to comprehensive medical treatment, or for patients who are suffering from the extreme weariness sometimes associated with coronary heart disease, but there is still argument as to whether a bypass prolongs life.

The situation has been made even more confusing by the conflicting statistical evidence of two large surveys – one done in America which seemed to show little influence on lifespan, and a more encouraging review in Europe. A panel of experts in Britain who assessed their figures last year concluded that survival time was certainly increased when the left main artery was affected, and probably also in triple artery disease. In consequence the experts wanted to see coronary angiography, the X-raying of the coronary arteries, becoming a standard procedure for patients with severe angina which has not responded to medical treatment, and for all patients under forty who have had a heart attack or suffer from angina.

In the *British Medical Journal* recently Dr Paul Silverton reviewed angioplasty, another method of treatment evaluated by the same panel of British experts. Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty is the full name of the procedure which patients have rather inaccurately likened to the clearing of blocked drains.

Cardiologists insert a balloon-tipped catheter into the lumen of the artery which can then be dilated by inflating the balloon. It is uncertain whether the increase in the bore of the artery is caused by the pressing back of the atheromatous plaque against the arterial wall or by stretching the wall itself.

Over 10,000 patients have been treated in this way since it was introduced in Zurich in 1977. It has proved so successful in alleviating angina and improving heart function in selected cases, particularly those in which only one vessel is involved, that the panel of experts feel that further research should be done to see if the scope of the procedure could be increased. They recommended, however, that it should be confined to the centres already doing this operation.

Unfortunately the improvement in the patient's symptoms, whether achieved by angioplasty or bypass surgery, is not lifelong. With angioplasty a third need to have the procedure repeated within a year. In coronary bypass cases the long term results are rather better – 80 per cent being free of angina at the end of the first year and 50 per cent still free after seven years.

MYTHS

● **That herpes will cause infertility.**

Untrue. Fertility is unaffected, but if the mother has active herpetic lesions at the time of delivery a Caesarean section will be needed, although this again will have no effect upon the baby. There have been reports that a first attack of genital herpes in the initial 13 weeks of pregnancy can cause foetal damage.

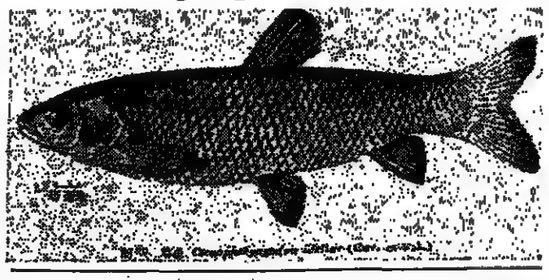
● **That the wearing of the condom will prevent the spread of NSU and gonorrhoea.**

Untrue. The chances of catching gonorrhoea are considerably reduced, but this precaution makes less difference to the spread of NSU.

● **That sexually transmitted disease cannot be caught off a lavatory seat.**

Probably untrue. Research workers several years ago were able to grow the organisms responsible for a variety of sexually-transmitted diseases from contaminated seats. However, whether infection is spread in this way is open to doubt and doctors tend to discount patients' stories to this effect.

Angling alert: Keep off the grass carp



Naturalists are increasingly worried by the introduction here of grass carp (left, Ctenopharyngodon idellus). They might be an admirably cheap and efficient means of keeping the rivers clear of vegetation but anglers should be careful before they put these carp into a pie.

The raw, or undercooked, gall bladder of this fish is highly poisonous; the toxin may cause acute liver and renal failure. The liver usually recovers its functions within a few days, but the kidney failure which develops within two or three days may be more serious.

Three cases treated by the medical unit of Hong Kong University are reported in the *British Medical Journal* of March 23. In one of them the patient needed eight sessions on the kidney machine before spontaneous renal function was restored. It would also seem unwise to give the fish to the cat. The river authorities have asked that any caught should be returned to the water.

Best you reach boiling point

Statistics show that doctors are more likely than most of their patients to commit suicide, become alcoholics, or be divorced. The conflict between their work and home life is a major cause of stress, not least among which is a doctor's inability to be on time for meals. The advent of the micro-oven has proved a godsend.

But the doctor should beware if he thinks that he can use the micro-oven for the sterilization of dry instruments. Recent work by Dr R. H. George, a microbiologist in Birmingham, and published in the *British Medical Journal* has shown that there is inadequate intracellular water in bacteria to result in their being killed by exposure to microwaves.

Dr George's research is important for all mothers bottle-feeding their babies for his experiments were designed to decide whether it was possible to sterilize a baby's bottle, and its rubber teat, in a microwave oven.

He coated two bottles with saliva which was allowed to dry. One bottle, together with a teat, was placed empty into the oven. The other was filled with water and both were left in the oven until the water boiled. Cultures were then taken from the teats and the bottles. Only where the bottle had been in contact with boiling water were the organisms killed. Bacteria in the dry bottle and on both teats were unscathed.

If a microwave oven is to be used for sterilization, whether by a harassed housewife or a doctor, the instrument, bottle or teat will only be effectively sterilized if it is completely immersed in a fluid-filled container and heated until the fluid boils. The baby's milk can then be sterilized by boiling it in the previously-treated bottle.

Down at heel

Dr Arthur Knight and Dr Gwilym Bowen of Cardiff writing in Modern Medicine *describe a sportsman's "black heel" condition which results from the pounding of the heels on the hard floor of the squash court. Bleeding into the deeper layers of the skin produces a circumscribed area of minute black dots which look at first glance like a deeply-pigmented mole – similar enough in appearance to be mistaken for a rapidly-growing malignant melanoma, a cancerous mole.*

Doctors who know that their patient is a squash player and are aware of the black heel syndrome should have no difficulty in differentiating between the two conditions

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

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THE TIMES DIARY

Taken as red

Amid the recent controversy about governmental phone-tapping more questions are now being asked – about the distribution of the transcripts. Lord Mayhew, chief Liberal spokesman on defence in the House of Lords, tells me he has raised the issue with Lord Whitelaw, leader of the Lords. Mayhew recalls that as a junior Foreign Office minister in Attlee's Labour government he received all available transcripts tapped from embassies of Iron Curtain countries, "and not infrequently the tapped conversations were with left-wing MPs". Concerned that the circulation list was drawn too wide, Mayhew asked the then Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, to withdraw his name. "It is not a matter of whether they should be tapped, but who gets to look at the intercepts", he said.

Howe's that?

Sir Geoffrey Howe, not noted for his ebullience, stunned his Czech hosts by bursting into song in an ancient wine cellar in Prague. When the Czechoslovak foreign minister, Bohuslav Chnoupek, started to hum along with gypsy singers and fiddlers, Sir Geoffrey's Welsh pride was touched, to almost universal embarrassment. He started to sing "Good King Wenceslas" and, even more mysteriously for his Czech hosts, "Bread of Heaven" in Welsh. Later, to the bemusement of his bodyguard and the ever patient Elspeth, he insisted on taking a midnight walk across the Vltava river. Who says he's the Mogadon Man?

Sainted aunt

God and mammon will meet in amity on Sunday when George Mallinckrodt, executive chairman of the merchant bank, Schroders, flies to Rome for the beatification of his great-aunt. Mallinckrodt, known as "Govy" to his friends, tells me it is a special mark of the Pope's devotion to his saintly aunt. Sister Pauline von Mallinckrodt, that she should be beatified only 104 years after her death – lightning speed by the standard of papal and indeed merchant banking, bureaucracy.

● **Mrs Thatcher's slip when she mixed up Indonesia (where she was) with Malaysia (where she said she was) is not the first. In Ottawa in 1982 she told an interviewer: "You too have difficulties with unemployment in the United States."**

Ring of truth

Revealed: the cost of unauthorized telephone calls abroad by GLC staff while they are supposed to be "working for London" – at least £11,400 a year. How do I know? Because that would be the cost of equipment to stop direct dialling abroad from County Hall, a proposal now being considered by Labour councillors. They have been told the cost would quickly be recovered. Quickly must presumably mean before GLC abolition, now just a year away. Mustn't it?

Reformists all

If Norman Tebbit gets the party chairmanship he will have a hard time from the Conservative Charter Movement, which presses somewhat ineffectually for the rights of the Tory rank and file. Its latest newsletter challenges Tebbit – "rumoured to be a genuine democrat" – to submit himself to election for the party chairmanship. "How ironic it will be if the man responsible for forcing democracy upon the trade unions will himself take over the most powerful undemocratic political role in the country."

BARRY FANTONI

'At least his bank won't go on strike'

Wait in judgment

For the first time this century Roman Catholics are to have their own church in the City, if the last round of negotiations with Church of England authorities are successful. Prebendary Martin Heal, vicar of St Mary's Aldermary, has been pressing for a scheme to share his Wren church with Catholics since he took charge last year. He tells me that he has now got the personal agreement of the Right Rev Graham Leonard, Bishop of London, and of Cardinal Basil Hume. Fr Francis Edwards from Farm Street church in Mayfair is the man expected to care for the Catholic flock. Before regular Masses can be said in St Mary's the C of E committee may need to invoke an Act of Parliament, passed in 1969 to allow the established church to share its premises with other denominations.

PHS

Coal: don't let the victory slip away

by David Hart

The Government and the National Coal Board, with help and understanding from a majority of British workers, have won a major victory over Mr Scargill and all his works. Now there are increasing signs that the subsequent peace may be lost and some of the most important principles that the Government stood for may be thrown away.

The Prime Minister, speaking to her hosts on her tour of the Far East this week, told them that the defeat of Scargillism is a signal that the truculence of the British labour force – much publicized abroad – is ending and that British goods can now be ordered with new confidence in workmanship and delivery. These remarks have been greeted with howls of protest from the Labour Party, emphasizing the completeness of the victory and Labour's utter unreadiness to face that fact.

One of the principal issues of the strike was the ultimate right of the NCB to manage the industry. This was expressed as its right to close uneconomic pits. At no stage in the dispute did the board cede this right or offer to cede it. Since then, Labour MPs and other proponents of the will-to-lose, including some within the NCB itself, have been busy trying to persuade Mr MacGregor, the board's chairman, to surrender just this fundamental principle.

They have been arguing that pits that have been damaged by the wilful actions of the strikers should be reopened, whatever the cost, and run at great loss, even if they are then to be put into the colliery review procedure and ultimately closed. No doubt advocates of this scheme hope that once the pits are reopened the procedures for closing them will be so protracted and so demanding of management time that the board will give up and keep open many pits that it knows it should close.

Mr MacGregor is resisting. Debate in the House of Commons and statements from the Department of Energy, however, do not give much encouragement to those who believed that the end of the strike had settled, once and for all, the question of uneconomic pits.

Earnest statements from ministers attesting to the honesty and integrity of the NCB and the Government are wrapped up with declarations of intention not to close pits. For example the statement from the Department of Energy of April 3 proclaimed, inter alia, that: "Both the NCB and the Government have repeatedly made it clear that no pit will be closed except under the terms of the colliery review procedure . . ."

Which procedure? The existing procedure or the procedure as modified by the agreement with Nacods? What if Nacods (or the NUM) wilfully refuses to agree on the details of the modified procedure? How long will the coal board wait? Does this apply to pits that have been so damaged by the strike that to reopen them would be economic nonsense and a waste of taxpayers' money? Why does the department feel the need to make such statements at all? Is it ashamed of its defeat of Scargillism?

According to the Chancellor, the strike cost the British taxpayer about £2.5 billion for the extra cost of the power station oil, for the policing costs, and so on. In the year to March 31, 1984, government grants to the coal board amounted to £1,145 million and the board borrowed a further £747 million, most of it from the National Loans Fund, that is from Government. The figures for the year to March 1985 are unlikely to be better.

The most widely advertised reason offered by the Government for resisting Mr Scargill's demands was its determination that taxpayers' money could not be used indefinitely to subsidize uneconomic pits and that other demands on the nation's finite resources, such as social security, the health service, education, overseas aid, defence and law and order, could not be eschewed in favour of the miners.

A majority of the public supported the Government's position. Poll after poll showed substantial majorities in favour of resisting Scargill and similar majorities accepted that uneconomic pits should close. Even polls of miners showed that most of them recognized the essential economic facts.

It would be utterly irresponsible of any government to have spent all these billions of pounds of taxpayers' money on the strike if it did not even ensure that the necessary measures were taken to make substantial and permanent savings. Yet, from its public statements, the Government does not seem to have the stomach for such measures.

Many coal faces have been irretrievably lost because of the strike. In Scotland alone, more than half the coal faces in production before the strike have now been lost. There are very many pits where damage caused by the strike is so grave that just to get them into working order will take many weeks and cost many millions of pounds, and even then the pit is forecast to continue to lose money. The cost of production at some of the loss-making pits can be as much as double the price that the coal will fetch, even on the not-so-open British market.

The recovery programmes range from a few weeks to several months. The cost per pit ranges from a few hundreds of thousands of pounds to many millions. Recovery of some pits could cost more than £20 million and, once recovered, they could lose more than £6 million each year. In aggregate, the cost of recovering 60 or so lost faces could amount to as much as £300 million.

It will be a tragedy for the country if these issues are fudged, if short-term peace in the pits and in the House of Commons is to be purchased by spending huge sums of taxpayers' money reopening hopelessly uneconomic pits.

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Michael Hornsby on a little-reported aspect of the Cape violence

When black kills black: apartheid's paradox

Johannesburg

Thamsanqa Kinikini was not a popular man. People in the KwaNobushle black township near Uitenhage in the Eastern Cape say he used his position on the local council to promote the interests of the family undertaking business rather than those of the community. How else, they say, could he have acquired such a big house and so many cars in such a short time?

They remember him as a bully who used to swagger about with a gun at his hip, followed by his son, Silumko, who was also usually armed. There has been no shortage of work for undertakers these past months in the Eastern Cape, and the local people say Kinikini would burst into churches in the middle of funeral services and demand that the saying of prayers be speeded because he had other burials to attend to.

Last month, as anger rose in the black townships round Uitenhage after the gunning down by the police of 19 black men, women and children, Councillor Kinikini was dealt retribution for the wrongs, real or imaginary, he was held to have committed.

With his two sons and two cousins, the 57-year-old Kinikini was trapped by a mob inside his funeral parlour. The building was set on fire. Kinikini tried without success to scare off the crowd by firing a few shots. His eldest son, Silumko, aged 19, and the two cousins then tried to break out. They were hacked down with spades, garden forks and pick-axe handles and bludgeoned with heavy stones. Their bodies were doused in petrol and set alight.

Seeing their fate, Kinikini shot dead his youngest son, Luvuyo, aged 13. Moments later, the flaming building collapsed around him. He and his relatives were later refused burial in the township cemetery, and his widow, Joyce, and her four daughters are now fugitives.

The violent end of the Kinikinis is an example of the fury in black communities against those deemed to be collaborating with the government. It is causing deep concern to black churchmen opposed to the government. "Our cause is a just cause," Bishop Desmond Tutu said recently. "But it is undermined by methods which fill people with revulsion."

It cannot be said that Councillor Kinikini had no warning of the mood of the people. His house was stoned by a mob last November. It was stoned again about a month ago, at which time all the other members of the council serving KwaNobushle and the other Uitenhage townships took the hint and resigned. Had Kinikini done the same, he would almost certainly be alive.

Top, Councillor Kinikini, his house stoned a few weeks before the fatal attack. Above, his son Silumko, bludgeoned and burnt by the mob

The local council system was set up by the government to distance itself from the direct administration of the 300 or so black townships scattered across the country. (The term "township" is part of the peculiar vocabulary of apartheid and is used to denote those areas reserved for blacks on the fringes of white towns into which blacks are allowed only as domestic servants or the daytime employees of white businesses.)

These local councils are elected by the inhabitants of the townships. The government thus insists that the councillors are the democratically elected representatives of the people and the only ones qualified to negotiate with it. This ignores the low turnouts recorded at these elections

The township councils owe their unpopularity to the widespread feeling that they are sops for real political rights. They have no real power or financial resources, and councillors do little more than execute the decisions taken on such matters as rents, electricity, water and sewerage charges by the white-run regional development boards, while, it is alleged, lining their own pockets.

Little business development has been allowed in black areas. Most blacks shop and work in the adjacent white towns and many white shops could not survive without black custom. Yet blacks get no direct share of the tax and rates revenue of white towns, though black housing is subsidized by the government. Blacks also have to pay for their education, while the superior state schools for whites are virtually free.

Councillors are easily accessible targets, living as they do in the black areas they serve, for outbursts of pent-up frustration and fury. So, similarly, are black policemen who make up half the police force.

Since serious violence started in Sharpeville and the other townships south of Johannesburg last September some 250 people are estimated to have died, of whom, perhaps, a fifth to a quarter have been blacks killed by other blacks (some by accident in the mayhem). Only a handful of councillors have been murdered, but scores of homes have been petrol-bombed, and few councils in the troubled areas are still operating.

The aim of the rioters is evidently to make the government's administrative structure in the townships unworkable. They are succeeding, but the short-term result is likely to be to stiffen Government intransigence, while most whites will continue to be unimpressed by the need for change so long as the violence is confined to the black ghettos and white areas remain largely untouched.

Solicitors who settle for a quiet life

The MORI poll reflecting majority support for an independent council to handle complaints against solicitors is not the only sign of discontent with the legal profession. After one royal commission and several reports, the Lord Chancellor has just announced the setting up of a high-powered committee to enquire into the delays, costs and complexity of civil litigation.

It is a big subject but Lord Hailsham has already indicated that one of the first things to be investigated is the notorious delay in the hearing of personal injury cases. Recently a man was awarded £102,000 after waiting nine years for his case to come to court. The insurance company has now said it will appeal; even if he wins it will be many months before he collects a penny.

The system's need of reform is illustrated by a polemical book published last month entitled *Lawyers can seriously damage your health*. The author, Michael Joseph, himself a qualified solicitor, turns on the members of his profession and with savage irony questions both their integrity and their competence. The book will make members of the legal profession very cross indeed; some might even be tempted to reach for their lawyers. But though the tone is sharp, the basic case is difficult to refute.

It is not the first time that Joseph has taken on the legal profession. In 1976 he caused a stir when he published *The Conveyancing Fraud* in which he demonstrated, to the fury of solicitors everywhere, how ordinary members of the public could do the job infinitely faster and more cheaply themselves. Published privately because no publisher would handle it, the book has sold 50,000 copies and is still in demand.

This time Joseph is offering not another legal DIY book but a detailed and closely argued critique of how the law deals with personal injury cases. In criticizing the delays and the costs and in arguing for an automatic, no-fault claims system, he is on familiar ground. What is new is the assault on the lawyers themselves, particularly solicitors.

At the heart of Joseph's argument is the assertion that solitors, by training and background, are singularly ill-equipped to handle personal injury cases. Furthermore, by advising their clients, as they usually do, to settle out of court, they are failing in their professional duty. In conclusion, Joseph suggests that the entire system is biased against the plaintiff and that frequently the solicitor stands personally to gain from giving bad advice.

To support his arguments Joseph devotes a large section of his book to a detailed examination of three case histories: a workman who was injured when operating a machine in a factory; a child who lost his eye in a playground accident; and a little girl who was knocked over while waiting to cross the road.

These cases were among the tiny proportion – some 3 per cent in all – which actually got to court. Pressure from solicitors to settle out of court is, Joseph says, overwhelming even though the sums offered are a fraction of what a court might award. Thus only the most determined plaintiffs who are prepared to change their advisers succeed. In the three examples Joseph examined the plaintiffs employed a total of 11 firms of solicitors and 10 counsel before the cases even got to court. And, though the sums eventually awarded were as much as 40 times larger than the original offer which the lawyers had urged their clients to accept, the expense in time, effort and emotional wear and tear was enormous. One case lasted more than seven years and none was settled in less than four – about par for the course.

Apart from the expense and the emotional trauma of fighting such a protracted battle, the plaintiffs, Joseph argues, were handicapped by the evident inability of the solicitors involved to do their job. Joseph maintains that there are no great legal questions involved in cases of this kind. What is at issue, he says, is simply a matter of evidence: the cases turn on matters of fact rather than fine questions of law.

The discovery of the facts in each case is the solicitor's main responsibility. But in none of the cases Joseph examined was this task properly or promptly discharged. Months and sometimes years passed before vital witnesses were questioned or the site of the accident even examined. By the time a case came to trial much essential evidence had been lost for ever.

The reason, Joseph suggests, is that such humdrum but necessary work is thought to be beneath the dignity of a professional man, learned in the law. If a competent inquiry agent had been employed, Joseph argues, the work could have been done within a matter of days. But solicitors are too grand to get their hands dirty. It is a damning indictment. But it has a ring of truth, as many who are still caught in the toils of the law will testify.

Stephen Aris

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David Watt

Why CND could mushroom again

A striking feature of this Easter – at any rate in Britain – was the relative weakness of the peace movement, however hotly those involved will dispute this. There were, of course, sizeable marches and demonstrations but on nothing like the scale of some in the past. Compare Molesworth with the vast Aldermaston marches of the late 1950s or even with the outbursts that marked recent Easters when the Cruise/Pershing issue was at its height, and you can see that we are in a different era. Why is this?

The answers come in three main packages – idealistic, realistic and mechanical. The idealist explains that concern about peace and opposition to nuclear weapons is as great as ever. But the reopening of the Geneva arms talks and the arrival of Mr Gorbachov, together with public pressure on President Reagan, have prompted genuine hope for a new deal in East-West relations. On this assumption the peace movement (or at least that major part of it that is not in the business of permanent, "hard-core" agitation) is in a state of conditional optimism. If the talks fail, either at Geneva or the summit, they will be back on the streets again, but for the moment they are content to wait and see what happens.

The realist places less reliance on hopes for the future and more on his own hard-headed perceptions of the present. The line here is that, because of the firmness of most western governments – particularly the US and British – the deployment of Cruise and Pershing missiles is now an accomplished fact. Gorbachov is still doing his best to stir doubts with his own conditional freeze on Soviet deployments but British doubters have accepted that there is not much they can do at this stage to change government policy.

There are no other sensitive defence issues on the immediate horizon with the possible exception of "Star Wars" – which only the experts really understand – and so the concerned citizen found some other, and possibly more congenial, way to spend Easter than marching behind Monsignor Kent.

Both these explanations are compatible with a third: that it doesn't matter much whether the ordinary person is buoyed up by hopes of an East-West thaw or cowed by the power of government. What acutally settles his level of commitment, and his willingness to act, is the natural dynamics of "the cause". All such popular stirrings, says the detached cynic, go in cycles which are ultimately determined by the rate at which people get bored.

A new movement is launched – CND, student revolt, anti-blood sports, and so on. It attracts attention by its novelty, or because its founders are gifted publicists, or because it makes good newspaper copy and good television pictures. It snowballs for a year or two until it reaches a certain critical mass. After that, in nine cases out of ten, it starts to break up. Supporters get discouraged by lack of results, perhaps the political climate changes, factions develop, a generation of ardent young people moves on to the mundane business of making a living, the media lose interest. And in five years they are back more of less to where they started.

There is some truth in all three explanations, I think, but there are also some flaws. The idealists are being more than a bit self-indulgent if they think that large numbers of people are refraining from demonstrations in the rational belief that Reagan and Gorbachov will be friends. Boredom and discouragement really do play their part.

On the other hand it is surely wishful thinking on the part of the realists to suppose that the Cruise issue is now beyond resuscitation. They have to account for two awkward facts. One is that although nine causes may fail, the tenth will succeed. The other is that most causes that have shown themselves to be capable of attracting considerable support are not frivolous. They are about real features of the world and, if these features do not change, the objections to them persist and indeed usually revive in a sharp form at some later time, even if they are appeased or faced down for the present.

CND is an illustration of this last point. Its first period of success from, say, 1957 to 1962 was due to two deadly serious factors (apart from the publicist talents of Bertrand Russell and Canon Collins). One was the tense and unpredictable state of East-West relations in a period when Khrushchev and John Foster Dulles were shouting at the tops of their voices. Another was the realization, dramatized by the launching of Sputnik in October 1957, that the Russians possessed the rocket technology necessary to rain their newly acquired H-bombs anywhere on Europe.

The British were suddenly frightened of another, more horrific, world war in which they seemed likely to be among the principal victims, while the superpowers stood the chance of escaping the consequences of their folly.

The panic waned because (a) the noise-level of superpower vituperation was turned down; (b) the Kennedy administration went to great lengths to re-establish the credibility of a rational commitment to the defence of Europe through the doctrine of "flexible response"; and (c) the decline of the Conservative government after 1960 and the revival, and eventual election, of Labour in 1964 relieved the frustrations of the left and diverted attention to other matters.

The parallels between this history and the fortunes of CND (Mark II) hardly need labouring. The same background of strident cold war rhetoric; the same awareness of Soviet nuclear power and of Europe's vulnerability to it; the same doubts about American credibility; even the same ruined and frustrated Labour Party. One difference is that this time the American public, now affected by a feeling of exposure almost as great as that of the Europeans, has produced a peace movement of its own – a fact that has strengthened the general sense of unease.

The crucial difference, however, is that the means which have been chosen in this cycle to calm everyone down do not, unlike the Kennedy measures, really tackle the problem, of vulnerability. The British peace movement may be dying down because President Reagan is no longer talking about "evil empires", because they do not see how to influence the Government and because domestic politics begin to look more promising.

But the underlying truth is that neither MX missiles in Oklahoma nor cruise in Europe are likely to be fired in defence of Europe if it means a risk to American cities, and that the "Star Wars" initiative is a piece of temporary political plumbing that will actually end in a worse flood.

Unless European governments take steps – frank-speaking education here, persuasion in Washington – plus systematic strategic thought (and expenditure) on both sides of the Atlantic, we can be absolutely sure that the same old fear, along with a new Collins and Kent, will soon return.

***moreover*. . . Miles Kington**

Approaching the languish barrier

The London Marathon is less than two weeks away now, so my preparations for watching it are well advanced. I intend to watch to the bitter end so of course I have to be in pretty good training, but I've never watched right to the end of a marathon before and I wouldn't be human if I didn't admit to being pretty nervous. Have you ever sat *still for hours and hours*? Not easy, is it? I am now full of admiration for an actor friend of mine called Dunstan who specializes in acting the corpse in murder plays.

"Lying on stage face down on the carpet is like watching a marathon, only more so. The main danger is either sneezing – I *always* vacuum clean my bit of carpet first – or dropping off to sleep. I once fell asleep after twenty minutes in *A Corpse Calls* and started snoring.

"Hideously embarrassing. One of the actors kicked me discreetly and I woke up shouting: 'Oh God, what's the time? – I have to get to the theatre'. Got a big laugh, though."

Dunstan's advice is to think of something else, like how far you are behind with your VAT returns. But this is hardly relevant to the London Marathon, where you have to concentrate very hard the whole time on statistics, like who is going to be the oldest black woman ever to finish a marathon or who will get the prize for the funniest slogan on a running shirt. I have done a lot of my training sitting in Ladbroke Grove watching the traffic go past, on the assumption that watching cars has to be more boring than watching runners.

My training in the Grove met a hiccup last week when a policeman asked me to move on. This seemed unreasonable. Sitting in an armchair with a rug over your knees studying the *Radio Times* hardly constitutes a riot, and I asked him just who he thought I was obstructing. He looked up and down the empty pavement and said: "Me". So I handed him a £5 note and asked him to look after it till I wanted it back, whereupon he arrested me for attempting to bribe an officer. The whole thing was sorted out when I explained I was in training for watching the Marathon or, in his well-chosen words: "Athletics and money – I quite understand, sir."

The longest I have watched in practice so far is four hours, which simply won't be enough if they are still trickling in at the six-hour mark. The wall, as we marathon-watchers call it, comes at about the five-hour mark when the mind meets a sudden barrier. The temptation then is to leap out of your seat yelling: "What on earth am I doing sitting here watching this rubbish. I must be round the bend!". But I am confident of weathering this crisis if my intake of Bloody Marys is sufficient.

This is where sponsorship comes in. I am being sponsored by Tolstoy Vodka, Golden Glow tomato juice, Gloucestershire Sauce (made in Taiwan), Tabasco Sauce, Greenpeace celery salt and the Cyprus Lemon Marketing Board, and I am confident that with their help I will be able to make it to the end. Of course I have a full-time back-up team making Bloody Marys for me, as it would be cheating to take my eye off the screen for a single moment, but they too have been in training for weeks just mixing drinks, and remarkably enjoyable time they seem to have.

All in all, morale is high and I have every hope of lasting the course. I just hope the TV set doesn't fail on the vital day, but luckily I am being sponsored by . . .

(That's enough sponsors, Ed.)

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THE TIMES

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AFTER SIZEWELL

The wide-ranging inquiry into the Central Electricity Generating Board's application to build a nuclear power station centred on a pressurized water reactor at Sizewell in Suffolk has so far done little but harm to the British nuclear industry, not least because of its length. The hiatus of ordering nuclear stations has caused the mothballing of plant associated with the rival British advanced gas cooled reactor (AGR) without replacing the jobs lost through development of the American-designed PWR.

More fundamentally, the inquiry reopened a debate over nuclear power after 20 years in which the safety record of Britain's first generation Magnox plants had earned them general acceptance among both the wider public and those living near the mainly remote sites to which the stations had been scattered. Nuclear power had proved economical, reliable and proof against shocks to fossil fuel prices.

It was inevitable, following the near-disastrous 1979 accident at the American Three Mile Island plant, that public policy on nuclear power would have to be reassessed, especially as that plant, like most round the world, was a water-cooled reactor. That accident reminded anyone complacent enough to have forgotten that nuclear power generation could cause disaster on a frightening scale. Disaster was, however, averted. Moreover, lessons have been learned.

For all the mass of technical evidence presented, the Sizewell inquiry could never do more than calibrate the fears reawakened at Three Mile Island. Twenty years ago, despite previous experimental reactors, the British public was taking a step into a world of the technological unknown with overtones of Doctor Faustus. Experience since has shown that the danger of large-scale reactor disaster is real but inceasingly remote with a technology whose effective control is a matter of design, engineering and vigilance.

Experience has also clarified great flaws in nuclear technology. The problems of handling and storing both low-level and highly radio-active waste, which may be dangerous for hundreds of years, are not temporary, waiting for science to catch up, but permanent and intractable. Most likely they can never be "solved", only coped with.

While the Sizewell inquiry was examining these drawbacks, the miners' strike underlined the crucial advantages of nuclear energy to the economy in spreading and therefore securing electricity supplies. Without substantial nuclear capacity we should have had power cuts and Mr Arthur Scargill might well have brought the British economy to its knees. Even with regular coal deliveries from Midlands fields, it was a close run thing. That argues for some further diversification of supplies. And although the inquiry has exposed the CEGB's stubborn bureaucratic resistance to a multiplication of alternative, often smaller scale, energy sources, nuclear power does seem to offer the most readily available and economical means of diversification.

The estimated life of the Magnox stations has recently been extended, further improving their economics. But they cannot last for ever. Without a programme to build new nuclear power stations, the proportion of our electricity coming from nuclear stations would have fallen off sharply before the end of the century. There is nothing in the record of nuclear power to cause us to reverse the decisions taken a generation ago and to phase it out. But that record does not give nuclear power a clean bill of health. It carries dangers and needs to be treated with caution. The problems of waste and contaminated sites argue against a large scale switch to nuclear power on the French model. There is no economic argument for that either. Britain has the largest economically exploitable coal deposits in Western Europe and we do not need a large-scale increase in overall generating capacity.

Both prudence and economics call for a modest but continuous nuclear building programme, sufficient to maintain a supply of domestic orders for the nuclear industry and gradually to raise nuclear's share of electricity, mainly by replacing Magnox stations at sites such as Sizewell with larger plants which do not carry proportionately larger risk.

The modesty of such a programme must affect reactor choice, a subject on which a planning inquiry is particularly ill-equipped to adjudicate. There would certainly not be enough domestic orders to sustain both AGR and PWR facilities, a fear effectively voiced by the South of Scotland Electricity Board, a proponent of the AGR. The choice between the two is by no means clear cut. Broadly, the PWR has had the edge on cost while the AGR has had the edge on safety, at least in public perception and on some theoretical grounds. But these differences have become increasingly dulled. The best design of the AGR proved the great success story of the coal strike. The PWR, more of which is factory made, has more obvious long-term export potential – not least because of its lower initial construction costs – once we have mastered the technology. Today, however, there is already too much capacity for likely world demand, a dearth of orders and cut-throat competition between experienced suppliers in the United States, France and Germany. The proposed Sizewell design has yet to satisfy the National Nuclear Inspectorate.

In such circumstances, it seems perverse to kill British technology after enduring the long, painful but finally successful process of making it work, and to start learning all over again with a different, no more advanced design. The CEGB has the momentum of more than a decade's commitment to bringing PWR to Britain. The Government too now has six years political investment in the American reactor. A fresh mind would have the courage to opt for AGR.

CHILDREN AT RISK

Reports of young children murdered; parents forbidding Scout and Cub sons from going door to door; a new series of government films on the dangers of molestation; reawakened memories of the Moors Murders; the Jasmine Beckford case; new work by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and others on the unsuspected volume of child abuse. Is there a pattern of heightened danger for children, that section of the population which – homicide rates based on age of victim show clearly – is already so vulnerable?

Probably not. This is a concatenation of events, none insignificant in itself nor empty of the particular horror which attaches to violence against children, but which does not (yet) add up to a single, society-wide phenomenon. Of course it is not only parents with young children who are chilled by reports of missing infants. The entire public's outrage at deliberate injury of children is hearty and loud; scenes of anger such as those outside the Nottingham courts the other day are inevitable. But such thirst for retribution comes from the circumstances of an individual case and should not be confused with the need for some aggregate policy from police, government or even the generality of parents. We, the newspapers, have to report; we reflect the public's identification of child abuse as a crime worth special attention. But there is danger of moral panic, of the construction of a public mood, and of a response which could lead to wasteful and bad policy-making, and possibly to injustice.

The statistics of crime against children are, like all crime, only dimly to be viewed somewhere between what may have occurred (the facts) especially inside families and private households, and what is reported (the stories) to public authorities and the police. Recent opinion sampling suggests there is considerably more sexual interference with children than had been thought but much of this is based on recollected experience of adults, an unreliable methodology. None of the series of crude criminal statistics suggests an unmistakable upwards trend in offences of violence; but the British Crime Survey estimates as few as 26 per cent of sexual offences and 23 per cent of offences of violence against the person are actually recorded.

There are patterns. Below the age of five boys are more at risk of violence and homicide than girls; between five and 16 that pattern reverses. Abuse is markedly more common where children are living with an adult who is not a natural parent. For children, as for adult victims of homicide, it is the parent and the parent's friend who is markedly more dangerous than the stranger. Prevention of such crime never has implied (nor should it) a squad of police, social workers, health visitors or even neighbours standing ready to break down the doors of private households.

Public policy in this area can have no single direction. New imaginative films produced by the Home Office are welcome, but the circumstances of their showing and their reception will depend on schools and parents and police. Central government, notably the regional departments, the Home Office and the Department of Health, can always do more to ensure coordination – for example in the compilation of the promised register of child sex offenders. Yes, this measure cuts across principles of offender rehabilitation, but necessarily so after the conviction of child-murderer Colin Evans at Reading last year. The point of the register is prevention, but the burden of preventive work falls not on the state but on parents. Ultimately they alone – helped by police officers and teachers – can alert and guard the children. It is their first responsibility.

HOXHA'S FORTY RUTHLESS YEARS

Enver Hoxha was the last of a distinct species of monster whose disappearance the world has little reason to regret. His death marks the final extinction of a generation of Stalinist tyrants. Of course the countries they ruled remain oppressive and dangerous autocracies, but the advent of a breed of leaders perhaps equally ruthless but relatively colourless and pragmatic has removed a dangerous strain of outright paranoia from the politics of the major power-blocks. Spiritually, Hoxha was of an earlier generation than Brezhnev and even Khruschev; he had already been in power several years when Mao became ruler of China.

Only leaders who come to power at a time of virtual disintegration of society are able to identify themselves with their countries in the terrifyingly egotistic manner of a Mao or a Hoxha. He had 40 years in which to make Albania an image of himself – narrow, inward-turned, dogmatic, racked with incessant suspicions and fears. In purge after purge he eliminated swathes of ministers, and even the little clique of wartime resistance fighters who ruled the country with him for years. Citizens were forbidden to travel, grow beards or own private cars: in 1976 they were compelled by statute to change their names if they had "undesirable political, ideological or moral" overtones. Some were jailed for mere possession of a bible or for watching a football match on Yugoslav television; confessions were extracted by repeated beating with rubber hoses; at trials, the formality of a defence lawyer was often dispensed with. Such information as leaks out of a country so profoundly secretive indicates that Albania had its own extensive Gulag of prison camps and labour colonies.

Hoxha's obsession with the purity of Marxist-Leninist doctrine, and his determination to reject the patronage of great powers of any ideological colour, had their grounding in personal and historical experience as well as in his own character. Many of the foreign plots against his regime were real, and no doubt some of the domestic ones too, for paranoia in a ruler almost inevitably becomes a self-justifying condition. Albania's history is one of many centuries of partial or total domination by outside powers, whether Ottomans, Italians or Slavs. The last remnant of the old Illyrian people, reduced now to a territory comparable in size to Wales, the Albanians have lived in an embattled enclave ever since the incursions of the migrating Slavs in the sixth century.

Hoxha's successors will still carry the marks of the country's history, although they are unlikely either to wish or be able to maintain his obsessive insistence on national self-reliance at the same pitch. Indeed, signs of relaxation have already been apparent in the last year or two, as Hoxha's grip has weakened. Albania has considerable natural resources, and a strategic position which gives great powers cause to woo it. In spite of all the old suspicions, there is a chance now for the first time in 40 years that Illyria may become a coast less dangerous for strangers to land on than Shakespeare imagined it to be in *Twelfth Night*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Giving art in lieu of taxation

From Lady Elton

Sir, Hardly a decade has passed since the late Lord Radcliffe wrote (*The Times*, July 3, 1974) that estate duty, already cumbrous enough, just works "because not all property owners in this country die each year".

Any ceiling on what can be accepted annually in lieu of CTT (capital transfer tax) adds a desperate hazard to those who are preparing to die responsibly by instructing their executors to offer works of art or pre-eminent collections in lieu.

Many of them are intending to benefit the National Trust by securing for it the goods, chattels and pictures which keep its houses alive, and enhance regional properties by the acquisition of collections inherently necessary to them.

Any one death, or two, could well exceed the new ceiling. Executors will be faced with two options, one of which is to sell on the open market, and the second, chillingly unpalatable, is to queue for the next two years, at six per cent a year, waiting for a slot in a fiscal year of low mortality and high-mindedness.

It is a mindless system which is to deprive the National Trust of minor but robust portraits, brass fenders and andirons, fine garden furniture, as well as eighteenth-century commodes, escritoires, and tester beds.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET ANN ELTON,
Clevedon Court,
Somerset.
April 10.

Value of British Council

From Dr R. M. W. Rickett

Sir, The recent letter (March 26) from the Director-General of the British Council is most timely. On my many visits abroad concerning higher education I have been impressed by the way the council's officers function and the high regard with which the British Council is held as a source of information in respect of UK universities and polytechnics.

The council has also established itself as a leading organization for the teaching of English as a foreign language in many countries.

There will be an even more pressing need for the council's activities to be sustained if our proposed withdrawal from Unesco is implemented. Whatever one's views of the desirability or otherwise of staying in Unesco, it will be absolutely essential that the UK maintains its international educational and cultural influence if we withdraw. This in turn means that the British Council's budget would then need to be not merely maintained, but increased.

If we are to reverse the trend of what the Director-General refers to as "the waning of our economic and political power" whilst at the same time containing public expenditure, it is essential that the money spent gaining influence abroad is spent wisely. Expenditure on the British Council for this purpose is very good value for money indeed.

Yours faithfully,
R. M. W. RICKETT,
Middlesex Polytechnic,
Trent Park,
Cockfosters Road,
Barnet,
Hertfordshire.

Tally on Lebanon war

From Mr D. J. McCarthy

Sir, Mr Podhoretz (feature, March 30) insists that Israel has won in Lebanon. So would General Sharon.

Those who disagree with them include Mr Peres, Mr Rabin, Mr Eban, Mr Weizman, various serving and retired generals of the Israel defence forces, Mr George Shultz, Mr Gemayel, the Commander of Unifil, the Editor of the *Jewish Chronicle*, Israel's increasingly apprehensive settlers in Galilee and (almost certainly) Mr Begin and Mr Shamir.

It must be difficult for men who assert that failure is victory, whether Mr Podhoretz or Mr Scargill, to abide by the rest of us. They might be happier as citizens of some country that shares their logic: Iraq, say?

Yours truly,
D. J. McCARTHY,
Church Farmhouse,
Sudbourne,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk.
March 30.

All together now

From Mr M. A. Cooper,

Sir, A collective noun for Sinclair C5's (letter, April 8)? Surely, what they have not – a clutch.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL COOPER,
87½ Redington Road,
Hampstead, NW3.
April 8.

From Ms Diane Greenwood

Sir, Surely two or more of these wretched contraptions constitute a litter?

Yours faithfully,
DIANE GREENWOOD,
6 Sutcliffe Close, NW11.

From Mr Peter MacLeod

Sir, The Sinclair C5 has three wheels, is small, moves relatively slowly, and needs recharging from the mains overnight.

Should not the collective noun be a "trickle"?

I remain, Sir, yours etc,
P. MACLEOD,
11 Malvern Road,
West Bridgford
Nottingham.
April 8.

Mrs Sarah Walden asks us to say that, contrary to the statement in a letter yesterday, she has been a member of the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works since 1962 and a fellow since 1982.

The 'grounds' and 'content' of faith

From the Reverend Dr N. M. de S. Cameron

Sir, The Archbishop of York's attempt (April 10) to douse the "doubting bishops" controversy is unsuccessful, since he fails to address the real questions at issue. No-one is disputing the distinction which he draws from Rahner between the "grounds of faith" and its "content". It is plain that the Christian faith is in large measure incapable of historical "proof", even if one judges that such a category can ever be appropriate to questions of history.

What is at issue, rather, is the "content" of the faith with which one ends up. Christianity is alone amongst the great religions in the significance which it gives to historical events. For this reason its great historical affirmations, while they remain, *qua* history, as certain and as uncertain as every equivalent historical claim, are also themselves the content of its faith. That is to say, when a Christian affirms the creed (and a bishop the Articles!) affirmations are made which, while they go beyond the merely historical, can never stop short of it.

Of course, as the Archbishop knows well (having himself given them his assent), the Articles spell out the physical and historical character of the resurrection of our Lord in line with the Biblical evidence and the historic and universal testimony of the Church. It is less than candid of him to fail to mention that event and instead to distract our attention by asking whether it "matters" that the parable of the prodigal son is "only a story", as if he had ever met anyone to whom this was an issue.

The Archbishop's other alleged illustration, the account of the withered fig tree, is misinformed. He writes, "Mark tells the story of the withered fig tree as an incident, whereas Luke records it as a parable". In fact, Matthew, Luke and Mark give a parable of a fig tree which does not wither, and quite separately, Matthew and Mark also relate an incident in which a fig tree is cursed and made to wither.

The real question is this. Whatever theory of faith and history he adopts (and there are many), the Christian affirms that he *believes* certain crucial events both to have taken place and to have a certain significance. Amongst these events are the virginal conception, the Incarnation, the death and the rising again, at a specific point in time, of Jesus Christ.

Whatever grounds the Christian has for his beliefs, they represent his considered firm conclusions. If the Church of England must have bishops (in Scotland the national Church wisely refrains), it should ensure that their conclusions are in line with those of the historic and universal Church. They should also be more careful in their use of Scripture.

Yours faithfully,
N. M. de S. CAMERON, Warden,
Rutherford House,
17 Claremont Park,
Edinburgh.
April 10.

From Dr B. W. Martin

Sir, In making the distinction between the content of faith and the grounds of faith, is the Archbishop of York denying the Church of England any doctrine? And how does he see the role of its bishops?

The doctrine of the Church of England stands enshrined in its Articles and its liturgies. Article IV states: "Christ did truly rise again from the death and took again his body, with flesh, bones, and all things appertaining to the perfection of Man's nature . . . " The Apostolic Creed states clearly: "I believe in . . . the Resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting".

Now if the Archbishop, and other bishops, are going to equivocate about this, and the Bishop of Durham is going to say words to the effect that "It all depends what you mean by the Resurrection", they had better all start redefining the Church of England's doctrine. We of the flock need to be shepherded; and if we are going to be confused, we shall need to look for safer shepherds.

Where do the Bishop of Durham and his apologists stop? We know, too, they doubt the Virgin Birth; but what about the Incarnation? What about the Trinity? At base, the story of God visiting the earth in the shape of man, as the Christ-figure, could be a fine symbolic tale, the ultimate *exemplum*. Where does heresy begin and end?

To answer that question, there should be doctrine, and arguments of bishops entrusted to defend the faith: if they cannot do so, they should never be bishops.

The one positive effect of the "doubting bishops" who have flown their true colours over the last few months is that many clergy this Easter have been prompted to reaffirm the faith from their pulpits and to underline its foundation on the miraculous; and as the Dean of Christ Church in his sermon on Easter Sunday morning said of his old friend in Durham, "He doesn't know when to stop talking".

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN MARTIN,
4 Chalfont Road,
Oxford.
April 10.

From Mr Percy Halliday

Sir, The letter of the Archbishop of York on the unfortunate disputation between certain bishops of the Church of England was very helpful. What he writes seems entirely consonant with what William Temple said in the introduction to *Readings in St John's Gospel* when he preceded him at York and Bishopthorpe before he moved to Canterbury.

Dr Temple told us that the Gospels were written by members of the Church for their fellow members and each is therefore "The gospel according to" somebody and never a certified record but always a personal impression.

"Thus", he wrote, "our concern is always with the Christ of faith, not with some supposed different Jesus of history."

Your sincerely,
PERCY HALLIDAY,
Malham,
43 Reynolds Road,
Beaconsfield,
Buckinghamshire.
April 10.

Conservative students

From Professor Peter Havard-Williams

Sir, As warden of the neighbouring hall of residence I heard little of the conference of the Federation of Conservative Students, unlike many other non-student conferences. There was no rampaging around halls of residence and the damage done was largely, if not solely, in one block. The damage itself was not more than that done by many other conferences and was not excessive.

If senior members of the Conservative Party think that the students' behaviour was exceptional, then they must be widely out of touch with contemporary behaviour in British society – the students were no worse nor better than many of their "elders and betters".

One can only conclude that the outburst is further evidence of the present-day politicians' "student-bashing" syndrome. The furore caused raises several questions, including

1. What was the real motive for John Gummer's precipitate intervention?
2. What were the motives of those who reported the damage in the terms in which they did?

Yours faithfully,
P. HAVARD-WILLIAMS,
Royce Lodge,
Loughborough University,
Leicestershire.
April 7.

Protecting the weak

From Professor Alan Day

Sir, Mr Tony McBrearty, the Chairman of the Greater London Council's Housing Committee (March 25) attempts to use the council's recent survey of the private rented sector to criticize your plea for a relaxation of the Rent Act. In fact, this pioneering survey (in a report to the committee dated January 24) provides a good deal of evidence which supports your own views.

The survey shows that, of recent lettings, over half (and possibly far more) make use of one or other devices to avoid the full rigours of the Rent Act; and that rents of properties where the tenancy appears not to be protected by the Act are around three times as high as tenancies enjoying protection.

After allowing for expenses such as rates, insurance, management fees and maintenance, these figures are consistent with others which suggest that the return on investment in property subject to the Rent Act is a small fraction (between one fifth and one tenth) of what can be earned elsewhere.

It is therefore highly questionable for Mr McBrearty to assert that the Rent Act does not drive landlords from the market; the evidence of the survey is that returns are quite uneconomically low and that as a result landlords either sell up when they can or are compelled to use devices (sometimes of questionable legal validity) for avoiding the Act.

At least equally questionable is Mr McBrearty's "assurance" that where rents seem low the condition of the property "invariably explains" the rent officer's judgement. If this were true, the rent officers would be in breach of their statutory duty to ignore scarcity in deciding on registered rents.

Moreover, Mr McBrearty's repetition of the often-quoted census figure that 35 per cent of private tenants in London lack or share an "inside" lavatory and bath mainly indicates that there is still a considerable number of people living in traditional bed-sitters. It does not (except in a tiny handful of cases) mean that the WC is outside the building, but that it is not inside the tenant's own private front door.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN DAY,
Chart Place,
Chart Sutton,
Maidstone,
Kent.
March 27.

'Struck off' teachers

From Mr Harold Whelan

Sir, The teachers' case would probably be helped if they had a professional body which regulated their conduct in the same way that members of the legal, medical and similar professions are governed.

Such an organization would be able to protect the efficient and ethical teachers against some of their less scrupulous brethren and at the same time have unifying effect which could be of considerable benefit in disputes not only about salaries but also about conditions of employment.

If teachers were liable to be "struck off" without the involvement of the DES, the effect on the few whose concern is largely political rather than educational would be salutary.

Yours etc,
HAROLD WHELAN,
158 Erdington Road,
Aldridge,
Walsall,
West Midlands.
March 27.

ON THIS DAY

APRIL 12 1864

Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807-1882) led the campaign for the unification of Italy. As a guerrilla leader he was supreme and in 1860 led the Expedition of the Thousand which successfully invaded Sicily, paving the way for a united Italy under Victor Emmanuel II. The Hungarian, Ferdinad Eber, was The Times *correspondent with Garibaldi, sending back accurate, colourful reports; he also saw service at the same time as a commander of a brigade with Garibaldi – an act which did not endear him to Printing House Square.*

THE WELCOME OF GENERAL GARIBALDI TO LONDON.

Yesterday General Garibaldi was welcomed by the people into London. It was most emphatically a people's welcome, and was given with such an earnestness and goodwill as has seldom been equalled and probably never excelled, even in our now somewhat long history of demonstrations in favour of distinguished visitors from all quarters of the globe . . .

There is no doubt that had there been any wish to receive the General with the pageantry of a real procession one of unusual splendour and worthy of the occasion could have been instantly arranged, but those intrusted with the arrangements for the General's reception turned away from any attempt of the upper classes to share in the welcome, determined that it should be solely and purely a class demonstration, in which only the working men should be invited to take part. This rule was not departed from yesterday. It was the working men's reception from first to last, and though perhaps the General would have been quite as well pleased to be received by some of our representative men, yet as the whole demonstration passed off well and pleasantly, it is needless now to remark further on what might have been done under a more liberal interpretation of what a "people's welcome" means.

At half-past 2 o'clock the General was expected to arrive at Nine Elms, so we need say very little more about the condition of the streets in the neighbourhood of that station long before the hour had arrived. On this point the Working Men's Societies, marching from all quarters of the metropolis, gradually converged . . .

The General wore the uniform in which he has always appeared in public in this country – that which he wore as leader of the Montevidean Italian legion – a plain gray coppte and Garibaldi hat and red tunic. His rest in the Isle of Wight has made a considerable improvement in the bronzed, hardy vigour of his aspect, as compared with the tired and travel-worn look he wore when he landed at Southampton. His lameness, however, seemed as permanent as when he limped from the Ripon, and without the aid of his stick it was evident that walking would be a slow and most laborious effort. As he advanced up the platform to where he was to receive the addresses ladies sometimes offered their hands to him over the barriers and then his ordinarily sad expression of countenance at once changed, as with the most winning courtesy he turned to press their hands and always had for each fair partisan a word or two of English to thank them for the honour they did him. A little child was put forward to present him with a bouquet, but he scarcely looked at the flowers, as with the most perfectly natural and fatherly manner he took the child in his arms, kissed it, patted its curls and tried as well as he was able to speak to it in English. Little as this incident was, it was so unexpected and, above all, so perfectly simple and natural, that it did more than elicit applause – it seemed to establish familiar and domestic relation between Garibaldi and all the ladies present. For the rest of the way down the platform he seemed almost bewildered by the intense enthusiasm of his welcome, but once on the dais, so to speak, he turned with the simple dignity that is natural to him and with his calm, melancholy look, remained to receive the addresses.

. . . the address from the working-men was read. It was as follows:–

"Illustrious Chief!–In the name of Britain's sons and daughters of toil, we bid you welcome to this metropolis. We hail you as the representative of a regenerated and united Italy, and for the love we bear to that beautiful land and its noble people, so long oppressed, but now, thanks to your devoted patriotism and indomitable courage, almost freed from the foreign oppressors, we bid you Welcome. Your name is to us a household word, the symbol of liberty, associated with lofty daring, bold enterprise, and unselfish devotion to the cause of human progress. For your noble deeds we thank, love, and welcome you, and in the name, the sacred name of that liberty for which you have fought, bled, and won for the oppressed peoples, we give you a place–the first place in our hearts; and while doing so we cannot forget that there are many who have been associated with you in your glorious enterprises who are also deserving of our admiration and esteem, especially the illustrious Joseph Mazzini, who has done so much for Italy, freedom, and humanity. We therefore, hope soon to be able to show our love for your co-workers. Accept, then, dear brother, our heartfelt delight at seeing you in our midst; and expressing a fervent desire for the full realization of your hopes–viz., your country's and the world's freedom–once more, in the unbounded fulness of our love for you and liberty, Welcome!

"London, April 11, 1864."

Almost all the passages in this address called forth loud cheers, especially that which applied to Mazzini, which were welcomed with marked enthusiasm, though almost chiefly, if not entirely, by the Italians who were present.

In reply to this, General Garibaldi said:–

"I like to see working-men particularly. I am very grateful, and will forget not in all my life this welcome of the class I have the honour to belong to. They like to call me the brother of the working-man of every part of the world!"

Double Dutch

From Mr M. A. Tatam

Sir, A senior (British) executive of Air France writes to say that he is unable to accede to a certain request I put to him. However, I was greatly cheered by his concluding sentence which reads:

"We regret being unable to help further, but remain at your disposal if we can be of further assistance."

Presumably this is a coded message of some kind?

Yours truly,
M. A. TATAM,
13 Turnpike Road,
Aughton,
Ormskirk,
Lancashire.
March 29.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 11: The Duke of Edinburgh left Heathrow Airport, London this morning in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight for The Netherlands where His Royal Highness will visit the Head Offices of DAF Trucks and the factory of Philip's Industries at Eindhoven.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 11: The Prince of Wales today visited HMS Avenger and HMS Danae at sea in the Portland area.

His Royal Highness, attended by Lieutenant-Commander Peter Eberle, RN, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Prince of Wales this evening attended a dinner given by the Commonwealth Development Corporation at the Fishmongers Hall to mark the retirement of Sir Peter Meinertzhagen.

Mr David Roycroft was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales this morning visited New Scotland Yard, Broadway, SW1.

Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 11: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today opened the British International Antiques Fair at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

Her Royal Highness later attended a Service at the Parish Church of St Alphege, Solihull and opened the reconstructed Vestry and Extension.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Jane Stevens.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
April 11: The Duke of Kent, Chairman of the United Kingdom Committee of European Music Year 1985, this evening attended the Annual Dinner of the Incorporated Society of Musicians at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, WC2.

Captain Charles Blount was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 11: Princess Alexandra this morning opened the Wirral Christian Centre in Birkenhead, Merseyside.

In the afternoon, Her Royal Highness visited Rolls-Royce Motors Limited at Crewe, Cheshire.

Princess Alexandra, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Lady Angela Whiteley.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will attend a luncheon given by the partners of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company at 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, on May 29.

The Hon Mrs Philip Sidney gave birth to a son on April 2.

Birthdays today

Mr Alan Ayckbourn, 46; Lord Bruce-Gardyne, 55; Miss Montserrat Caballé, 52; Mr Paul Cook, 39; Miss Joan Grant, 78; Mr Edward Hide, 48; Lord Inglewood, 76; Mr Uwe Kitzinger, 57; the Earl of Limerick, 55; Mr A. W. Mabbs, 64; Mr Bryan Magee, 55; Air Marshal Sir Harold Maguire, 73; Mr Bobby Moore, 44; Sir Donald Perrott, 83; Mr William Redpath, 92.

The singer Ann Mackay was one of the performers at a press conference in London yesterday to announce details of the sixth Stately Homes Music Festival. There will be 26 venues, including Castletown House, Dublin, for the 27 concerts

Forthcoming marriages

Lord Aberdour and Miss A. K. Mitchell
The engagement is announced between Stewart, elder son of the Earl and Countess of Morton, of Dalmahoy, Kirknewton, Midlothian, and Amanda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. M. Mitchell, of Kirkcudbright.

The Hon J. P. C. Parnell and Miss M. A. Hobdell
The engagement is announced between John Patrick Christian, elder son of Lord and Lady Congleton, of Ebbesbourne Wake, Wiltshire, and Marjorie Anne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hobdell, of The Ridings, Cobham, Surrey.

Mr P. L. Baillieu and Miss L. R. Black
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of the Hon E. L. and Mrs Baillieu, of Sunningdale, Berkshire, and Lucy, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs F. R. Black, of Wing, Buckinghamshire.

Dr C. J. Absolon and Dr C. M Bamber
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Absolon, of Winchester, and Christine, daughter of Dr and Mrs David Bamber, of London.

Mr T. H. Carnaghan and Mrs S. J. Garrett
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs C. Carnaghan, of Brighton, and Susan, daughter of Mrs J. Forsyth and the late Mr P. Forsyth, of East Horsley.

Mr N. J. Hadfield and Miss K. Chrun
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr R. J. Hadfield, of Dunwich, Suffolk, and Mrs E. Hadfield, of Blakeney, Norfolk, and Kietny, daughter of Mr and Mrs Y. H. Chrun, of Hong Kong and Montreal.

Mr P. A. Hedgcombe and Miss A. J. Brown
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs G. D. Hedgcombe, of West Wickham, and Angela, only daughter of Mr A. R. Brown, of Biggin Hill, and Mrs P. J. Brown, of Bromley.

Mr R. F. Henderson and Miss C. M. Lane
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. F. Henderson, of Charminster, Dorset, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. C. Lane, of Poxwell, Dorset.

Mr A. J. Matthews and Miss S. J. Lewis
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs B. E. Matthews, of Styvechale, Coventry, and Suzanne, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. R. Lewis, of Kenley, Surrey.

Mr N. M. Hembrow and Miss P. J. B Bullock
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of the late Mr and Mrs Michael Hembrow, formerly of Geneva, Switzerland, and Penelope, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Bullock, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Grindleford, Derbyshire.

Dr C. B. James and Miss J. H. Robinson
The engagement is announced between Bruce, youngest son of Mr and Mrs C. V. James, of Long Ashton, Bristol, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Neil Robinson, of Easingwold, North Yorkshire.

Mr A. T. Kincaid and Miss S. J. Franklin
The engagement is announced between Andrew Thomas, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. J. Kincaid, of Melbourne, Australia, and Sarah Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. M. Franklin, of Mill Hill School, London.

Mr D. J. W. Knox and Miss C. E. Ross Russell
The engagement is announced between David John Wissler, eldest son of Professor and Mrs John H. Knox, of Edinburgh, and Clare Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Ralph Ross Russell, of Rochampton, London.

Dr A. J. M. Murdoch and Miss J. M. Moreton
The engagement is announced between Alastair, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert Murdoch, of Glasgow, and Janet, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Moreton, of Handforth, Cheshire.

Mr R. I. Renton and Miss C. L. Rentoul
The engagement is announced between Ian, only son of the late Colonel Alec Renton and Mrs Renton, of Eastcourt, Wiltshire, and Clair, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. W. Rentoul, of Grampound, Cornwall.

Mr J. P. Lenanton and Miss B. C. Regan
The engagement is announced between Philip, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J. H. Lenanton, of Ninhams Wood, Farnborough, Kent, and Brigid, third daughter of Mr and Mrs B. P. Regan, of Cranfield, Brenchley, Kent.

Mr A. P. Marsden and Miss V. J. S. Hodgart
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr Austin Marsden and the late Mrs Cathryn Marsden, of Cartref, Walton Road, St Helens, and Valerie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Iain Hodgart, of Auch-na-Gaoith, Kilmalcolm.

Mr B. A. Ringstead and Miss J. M. Green
The engagement is announced between Barry Alan, younger son of Mr and Mrs Don Ringstead, of Great Sutton, Cheshire, and Jenny, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Green, of Byworth, West Sussex.

Mr M. S. Saunders and Froken I. L. Hansen
The marriage arranged between Mark Sinclair, son of Dr and Mrs D. R. S. Saunders, of West Lavington, Wiltshire, formerly of Radlett, Hertfordshire, and Inge Lyse, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Hansen, of Brabrand, Denmark, will take place on May 4 in Denmark.

Mr N. R. Shaddick and Miss M. G. Fraser
The engagement is announced between Neil, son of Mr V. R. Shaddick and Mrs Jean Shaddick, of Truro, Cornwall, and Maureen, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Fraser, of Te Puke, New Zealand.

Mr A. G. Stovin and Dr A. E. Woollard
The engagement is announced between Alan, younger son of Mr and Mrs N. M. Stovin, of Claythorpe Manor, Alford, Lincolnshire, and Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs C. C. Woollard, of Bodelva, Crays Hill, Essex.

Dr S. J. Thornton and Miss S. L. Telfer
The engagement is announced between Simon John, son of Mr and Mrs P. C. Thornton, of Lordswell Manor West, Crowborough, East Sussex, and Susan Louise, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs A. B. M. Telfer, of Kinmuir, Milngavie, Glasgow.

Mr G. A. Village and Miss L. M. Bendefy
The engagement is announced between Giles, son of Mr and Mrs R. T. Village, of Dronfield, Sheffield, and Ilona, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. A. Bendefy, of Bricket Wood, St Albans.

Mr M. J. P. Wright and Miss U. J. Calver
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs G. P. Wright, of Ackenthwaite House, Milnthorpe, Cumbria, and Ursula, daughter of the Rev S. B. and Mrs Calver, of Taunton, Somerset.

Mr R. Wynne-Jones and Miss M. C. Manuel
The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H. Wynne-Jones, of Luton, Bedfordshire, and Margaret, only daughter of Mr J. A. Manuel and the late Mrs E. M. Manuel, of Harrow, Middlesex.

The marriage between Mr Mark Coulton and Miss Louisa Rooney arranged for Saturday, April 13, will not take place.

Marriage

Squadron Leader T. G. Hanlon and Miss J. P. Lee
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 6, at St Andrews between Squadron Leader Terence George Hanlon, son of the late Mr G. E. Hanlon, and of Mrs C. K. Hanlon, of Dumfries, and Miss Janet Pauline Lee, third daughter of Flight Lieutenant and Mrs J. W. Lee, of St Neots.

Memorial service

Mr F. P. Knight
A memorial service for Mr Francis Philip Knight was held at St Stephen's, Rochester Row, yesterday. The Ven Jeremy Walsh, son-in-law, officiated, assisted by the Rev David Bryant. Mr Charles Noscum read the lesson and Mr C. D. Brickell gave an address. Among those present were:
Mrs Jeremy Walsh (daughter), Mr David Walsh, Miss Helen Walsh and Mr Andrew Walsh (grandchildren).
Mary, Duchess of Roxburghe, Lord and Lady Aberconway, Lady Anne Palmer (International Dendrology Association), Sir Giles Loder, Mr Robin Herbert (president, Royal Horticultural Society) with Mr Reg Elliott (vice-chairman), Mr John Cowell (secretary) and Mr Alan Sawyer (show manager); Mrs H Eslin and Mrs E M Elmer (Knaphill Garden Club), Mrs Charles Notcutt, Mrs C Brickell, Mr and Mrs Miller Gault (Gardeners' Sunday), Mr E L Lord (Gardeners' Benevolent Society), Mr John Hillier, Mr John Paton (Commonwealth War Graves Commission), Dr and Mrs R Robinson (Hyde Hall Garden Trust), Mrs Robert Williams (Werrington Park Estate), Mr F B Herd (Rotary Club of Woking) with Mr D H Blundell, Mr Graham Thomas, Mr John Mattock, Mr Will Ingwersen, Mr Donald Waterer, Mr Brian Salt (East Malling Research Station) and members of the staff of Wisley Garden.

Luncheon

Parkinson's Disease Society
The Parkinson's Disease Society held a luncheon at the RAF Club, Piccadilly yesterday on the occasion of the anniversary of the birth in 1755 of Dr James Parkinson. Air Vice-Marshal Donald Bennett presided and presented a certificate of commendation to Professor David Marsden, FRS, for his research into Parkinson's Disease. Mr Anthony Kilmister, executive director, read the citation.

Dinner

Makers of Playing Cards Company
The Master of the Makers of Playing Cards' Company, Judge M. V. Argyle, QC, presided at a Court dinner held at Armoury House last night. The other speakers were the Senior Warden, Mr P. A. Simkins, His Honour Alan King-Hamilton, QC, and Mr J. G. B. Watson, MP.

Service dinner

No 1 (F) Squadron Association
The committee of No 1 (F) Squadron Association held a dinner at RAF Bentley Priory last night. Air Vice-Marshal K. W. Hayr presided.

Desk makes paying bills a pleasure

By Huon Mallalieu

The payment of bills would be almost a pleasure if one were seated at the elegant George III mahogany secretaire-cabinet sold by Christie's yesterday for £81,000.

The upper section contains pigeon-holes and drawers with silver plaques inscribed "Bills Paid", "Bills Not Paid", "Receipts", "Letters Answered", and "Letters Not Answered".

According to Christie's, it is "tempting (although unsafe)" to identify this piece with one by the London firm of Ince and Mayhew which the auctioneers sold in 1778 for £21.

On the latest visit yesterday to the sale room the estimate was between £50,000 and £70,000, and the buyer was the dealer Partridge.

The sale of English furniture made a total of £1,324,706 with 10 per cent bought in. A pair of George II, mahogany, six-legged hall settees also did well, selling for £51,840 against an estimate of from £10,000 to £15,000. A sofa 12ft in length could well create difficulties, in even a large house, but the London dealer Gibbs paid £32,400 for a George II pair of them, elaborately carved in pine (estimate £30,000 to £50,00).

They have undulating padded backs and seats, and the legs alternate with elephants' heads. They were probably made for the first Earl of Clinton, a Lord of the Bedchamber to the future George II, and were last at Christie's in 1966, when they sold for £600.

More practical, and probably more comfortable, was a Queen Anne walnut wing armchair covered in gros point needlework, which reached £36,720 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000). In a sale held by Bloomsbury Book Auctions a signed first edition of P. G. Wodehouse's *Eggs, Beans and Crumpets* sold for £418 (estimate £50 to £75), and a first edition of Shaw's *St Joan* for £440 (estimate £200 to £300).

Once upon a time there was an anecdote

By Philip Howard
Literary Editor

Once upon a time there was an Oxford don lecturing to the Classical Association who – but, aposiopesis. I do not think that this is at all a suitable place for that particular anecdote.

At the annual meeting of the association at Bangor yesterday, Sir Kenneth Dover, Chancellor of St Andrews University and President of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, examined the role of anecdotes in ancient history. Like all the best ones he managed to be both illuminating and entertaining.

Anecdotes are the backstairs and glory-hole of history. We like them because they clothe the skeletal figures of the ancient world in flesh and blood. We adduce them if they support our hypothesis, and reject them if they do not.

By their nature they are almost impossible to prove or disprove. You could come close to saying that once a story is proved to be true, then it is no longer an anecdote. In our own time, whether we believe or disbelieve a political anecdote, the sort of thing that get printed in the gossip columns, often depends on our political prejudices.

Sir Kenneth tracked some famous ancient anecdotes back to their origins, and found them too good to be true and too clever by half. Plutarch has a famous anecdote of Pericles cheering up his sailors during an eclipse of the sun by covering his face with his cloak and saying: "Look, don't be frightened. What is happening to the sun is only what I am doing to my face".

It is bad luck on Plutarch that astronomers can be called in evidence more than 24 centuries later to demonstrate that his anecdote cannot have happened in the way he tells it.

Fortunately, the scientists can neither verify nor disprove the anecdote of the lady of a certain age asking Pericles as a favour not to prosecute her brother. He is said to have replied: "Wrinkles don't turn me on", or words to that effect.

Let us hope it is true. Even if it isn't, anecdotes can be revealing in their prosuppositions: the foundations of painted smoke. We live in a Western world dominated by a belief in a narrative supposed to be literally true. You could say, if you wanted to be tiresome, that the gospels are nothing but a string of anecdotes. Our scholars swim in an ocean of print.

The ancient Greeks had no such grip on their past. Their records were negligible, even by Mesopotamian standards. That was why they used gossip and conversation and anecdote for history. There was no alternative. Which is why we need scholars as judicious as Sir Kenneth Dover to test their history for us.

Latest wills

Mr Richard Cator Martineau, of The Old Rectory, Droxford, Hampshire, a former classics master at Eton College and later a fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge, left £904,906 net.

Mr William Gordon Finlayson, of Lambeth, London, left £766,506 net. After personal bequests he left the residue equally between the RSPCA and the The Salvation Army.

Barton, Mr John Rieveley, of York £252,064
Dahl, Mrs Violet, of Stowmarket £282,079
Davis, Mr Harold George, of Northwood, Middlesex £534,832
Hatton, Mr Bryan Courtenay, of Sharperton, Northumberland £257,449
Patterson, Mrs Mary Ethel, of Solihull £319,810
Pethybridge, Mr Harford William, of Bristol £212,667

Nottingham University

Nottingham University convocation AGM and reunion will take place on Saturday, May 11, 1985. Details are available from the Convocation Secretary, Nottingham University, NG7 2RD.

OBITUARY

MR ENVER HOXHA
Stalinist leader of isolated Albania

Mr Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the Albanian Communist Party, and the dominant figure in Albania since the closing days of the Second World War, died yesterday at the age of 76.

For four decades Hoxha presided over a backward, repressive and secretive state in which everything was done to exclude foreign influences. During those years he showed a remarkable capacity for political manoeuvre, and a quality of ruthlessness, which led to a succession of party purges at home and to startling switches of allegiance abroad. At different times he aligned himself with both the Soviet Union and China, and he ended up hostile to both.

One important factor in these changes was his suspicions of Albania's larger Yugoslav neighbour. Though, ironically, Stalin kept him at arm's length, suspecting him of westernism and petty-bourgeois nationalism, Hoxha's hostility to Yugoslavia drove him to support Stalin against Tito in 1948. Then, when Khrushchev was mending Soviet fences with Yugoslavia, Hoxha expelled the Soviet Navy from its prized port facilities in Albania and sided with China.

But when his Chinese patrons in turn developed the theory of "three worlds" to accommodate a certain Sino-American rapprochement, Hoxha attacked them for betraying the struggle against imperialism.

Hoxha was never daunted by isolation, and ran Albania as an explicitly Stalinist state, in which religion was declared extinct and foreign loans from capitalist or revisionist sources were constitutionally forbidden – though in recent years contacts began to be made with certain western European countries. Tourists had to surrender foreign newspapers at the frontier, and at one time those with beards were made to shave them off. Hoxha's own personality became such a cult that his audience at a party congress could be made to endure a speech lasting 15 hours.

Enver Hoxha was born on October 16, 1908, the son of a Bektashi Muslim landowner in Gjirokastër (Argyrokastro). In 1930, after attending the French lycée in Korcë, he received an Albanian government scholarship to the University of Montpellier, which, however, he forfeited after one year for neglecting his work. From Montpellier he moved to Paris, where he came under the influence of a group of Albanian Communists resident there. Hoxha joined the French Communist Party and published in *L'Humanité* a number of articles attacking the Zog regime in Albania. After a spell as secretary to the honorary Albanian Consul in Brussels, Hoxha enrolled as a law student at the University of Brussels, but once again left without completing the course.

In 1936 Hoxha returned to Albania, where he earned a living by teaching French in various schools, including the Korcë lycée which he had himself attended. But his political beliefs hindered his career, and in 1939 he was reduced to keeping a tobacco kiosk in Tirana. Hoxha turned this to account for the Communist cause, and the kiosk became a centre for Communist groups.

In Korcë, Hoxha had joined the *Puna* (Labour) group of Communists. In 1941, when most of the miscellaneous Albanian Marxist groups were amalgamated under Yugoslav guidance to form the Albanian Labour (ie Communist) Party, Hoxha became its provisional Secretary-General. As such, he was sentenced to death *in absentia* by the Italian occupying authorities. When the Albanian National Liberation Movement was set up a year later, Hoxha was the leading figure at its inception, and became Chief Political Commissar of the National Liberation Army – a position which he could use not only against the Axis Powers' troops but also against his own rivals. In 1946, when Albania became officially a People's Republic, Hoxha held the offices of Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Defence. In 1953, however, he relinquished his government posts, preferring thereafter to rule through the Party.

Until 1948 Albania was a Yugoslav rather than a Soviet satellite; but among the Albanian leaders the Yugoslavs tended to favour the proletarian Koci Xoxe rather than the intellectual Hoxha. After some years of internecine struggle, during which it was doubtful which of these two would liquidate the other, the Soviet-Yugoslav quarrel gave Hoxha the opportunity, and the necessary Soviet approval, to have Xoxe executed in 1949. In 1955 Hoxha reacted to Khrushchev's rapprochement with Tito by purging another of his colleagues, for pro-Yugoslav sentiments. By 1956 Hoxha was the only member of the original Party Central Committee of 1941 still active.

The alarums of destalinization in the Soviet Union once again raised opposition to Hoxha in Albania; but he was saved by a new external crisis – the Hungarian Revolution. Hoxha was quick – quicker even than the Chinese – to attack Tito's role in the events of summer and autumn 1956, and to blame the crisis on "revisionism". At home, this was the occasion for another violent purge of the Albanian leadership (Khrushchev later accused Hoxha of having a pregnant woman shot in this purge).

By this time Chinese as well as Soviet credits had begun to figure among Albania's main sources of outside economic support, and the years 1957-60 saw a growing convergence of Albanian and Chinese views, especially on the Yugoslav issue. In 1959 Khrushchev visited Albania in an unsuccessful effort to keep Hoxha out of the Chinese embrace, and, most probably, to seek support among Hoxha's rivals in the Albanian Party. He met with no success, and Hoxha later claimed to have rejected Soviet proposals to install rocket and submarine bases in Albania.

When the Sino-Soviet dispute came to a head in 1960, Hoxha, provoked by suspicions that Khrushchev intended to support Greek aspirations in southern Albania, declared his support for China, whose solitary European satellite Albania now became. Alone of European first party secretaries, Hoxha refused to go with Khrushchev to New York for the United Nations General Assembly, and in Moscow in December, at the 81-party meeting, attacked the Soviet leader in terms of vulgar abuse. Hoxha now swiftly purged those elements in his party and armed forces on whom Khrushchev had laid hopes for a change of Albanian policy.

For some years thereafter, Hoxha appeared satisfied with Albania's position as Chinese protégé in Europe. There were signs that the "teachings of Comrade Enver", like those of Chairman Mao in China, were attaining the status of infallible texts for his subjects to follow. But the Cultural Revolution in China, though echoed in some superficial respects in Albania, was not followed to the point of disabling the party as the Red Guards had done in China. Chinese advice to Albania in 1968 and again in 1975 to form a military alliance with Yugoslavia and Romania was resented and disregarded, and even before Mao's death, from 1972 onwards, Hoxha showed increasingly open disagreement with Chinese overtures to the United States. By 1978 Hoxha's party newspaper was implicitly categorizing the Chinese as imperialists, and matters soon reached the point at which Chinese aid was cut off. Chinese technicians were recalled from Albania, and Albanian students left China.

Purges of at least eight important figures in the leadership (including the execution of the Minister of Defence) as "traitors" in 1973-75 suggest that Hoxha had had to contend with some opposition at home to this intransigently independent – not to say isolationist – course (which a strictly limited improvement of relations with Yugoslavia and Greece did nothing to alter).

The outcome of these struggles seemed to demonstrate Hoxha's absolute grasp of the reins of power; but the death, reportedly by suicide, of Hoxha's oldest associate, the Prime Minister Mehmet Shehu, in December, 1981, followed by the dismissal of six ministers in 1982, suggested there were still acute tensions in the Albanian regime.

Apart from innumerable speeches, Hoxha published a book of memoirs in 1975, and a 1,900-page diary, *Reflections on China*, in 1979.

Hoxha married in 1945 Nexhmije Xhuglini, a partisan leader who was subsequently prominent in Albanian politics, particularly in women's organizations. They had two sons.

GALINA von MECK

Galina von Meck, who died on April 9 at the age of 93, was Tchaikovsky's great-niece and the grand-daughter of his patroness Nadezhda von Meck.

Born in Moscow on October 13, 1891, the fourth child of Nadezhda's son Nikolay and Tchaikovsky's niece Anna Davydova, she grew up in prosperous circumstances – the von Macks had made a fortune out of the development of Russia's railway system – but came to know hardship, imprisonment and exile, all of which she bore with formidable courage.

As a small child, she had one brief encounter with her grandmother, recounted in her autobiography *As I Remember Them* (1973). Her childhood was spent as a member of a well-to-do Moscow family dividing its time between an artistic and business city life and summers on their estate in the Ukraine.

Though Tchaikovsky died before she was old enough to remember him, she retained vivid and entertaining memories of the other members of his family and of his musical friends such as Taneyev. On a visit to England in 1912 she met her first husband, Noel Perrott, but he failed to settle into Russian life and the marriage ended in divorce.

At first sympathetic to the ideals of the Revolution, she found the realities disillusioning. She was arrested trying to help a prisoner escape across the frontier; there followed years of hardship in the Lubyanka and in Siberian camps, where she made a second marriage with a fellow prisoner, Dmitry Orlovsky, who later disappeared. She was not released until 1935; later she managed to make her way to Germany and finally to England.

Not until late in her long life did she begin to make use of her remarkable literary and linguistic gifts. Her autobiography is a fascinating account, told with toughness, generosity and humour, of a life in whose most appalling moments she always managed to find interest and moral reward. Her unswerving Orthodox faith sustained her thoughout all her privations.

She translated a large book of Tchaikovsky's *Letters to his Family* (1981), and had completed another volume of autobiography and was working on the three volumes of Tchaikovsky's letters to her grandmother.

Her courage and her salty wit, and her enormous charm and kindness, made her a friend to many English musicians as well as to fellow-exiles. It was appropriate that her 90th birthday party should have united English friends, her family and visiting Soviet musicians.

Her tiny London flat retained an old Muscovite atmosphere, and she herself, though quick to defend the young and much in the modern world, carried with her something of the dignified old Russia that remained so sharply etched on her memory.

"This country is lucky enough to enjoy the richest music life of any in the world. Sadly, though, it has a poor record in providing for the very musicians who make this possible. Conditions are poor and hours are long. There is no pay for missed working days caused by sickness or family misfortune and few can look forward to a pension. The Musicians Benevolent Fund does invaluable work to improve this situation, but it could do even more with your help. By supporting the Fund you can personally thank the musicians who have created the musical wealth of this country."

Georg Solti SIR GEORG SOLTI

MUSICIANS BENEVOLENT FUND,
Philip Cranmer, Chairman
Please send a donation, large or small, to:
Martin Williams, Secretary,
16 Ogle Street, London W1P 7LG.

Science report

Cells use ropes to move molecules

By a Special Correspondent

How do cells move molecules and energy about inside the cellular "soup" or the slightly viscous fluid called cytoplasm that fills the cells? Above all, how do nerves, which are just immensely long single cells, continue to supply their ends with the energy and chemical messengers they need? The answer, it seems, is by ropes.

Four American neurobiologists have just completed some remarkable optical and electron microscope observations of the squid's giant nerve (and its contents). They have shown clearly that packets of molecules, and the cell's energy sources, the mitochondria, manoeuvre rapidly along threads called "microtubules", attaching and re-attaching, and shifting from thread to thread like monkeys in the forest.

The microtubules are amazing structures in themselves. Discovered some years ago, they are made of small protein sub-units called tubulin, and assemble and reassemble in the cell as the cell has need of them.

Their most spectacular use is in cell division, when the cell organizes them into a bunch called a "spindle". The cell multiplies its chromosomes (containing the genetic material) into two, and then sends half the chromosomes along the microtubules in one direction down the spindle, and half in the other. At their respective ends of the spindle, the chromosomes begin to form the nuclei of two daughter cells.

In January this year two zoologists, Michael P. Koonce and Manfred Schliwa, of Berkeley, California, reported that giant amoeba could use microtubules, contained in a network of thick tubes, to send mitochondria around the cell.

The scientists demonstrated also that a single microtubule could take mitochondria moving in both directions simultaneously on the same thread, and that in some cases a thread branched, sending forward-moving mitochondria down one branch, and receiving backward-moving ones down the other.

Now Dr Ronald D. Vale, of Stanford, California, Dr Bruce J. Schnapp and Dr Thomas S. Reese, of Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and Dr Michael P. Sheetz, of Connecticut, have shown in even more detail that mitochondria and smaller cell organelles, possibly packets of chemicals, are sent in similar fashion, some going this way and some going that, along microtubules in the squid's giant axon, or nerve.

The four scientists studied the movements within the axon, and along threads squeezed out and separated from the confines of the axon itself, with sophisticated image-processing techniques in a light microscope, and in the electron microscope. Their special methods allowed them to study exactly the same piece of microtubule in the light microscope and in the electron microscope.

According to these studies, the organelles or packets need the cell's "fuel", the energy-source molecule ATP, to move along the microtubules.

If ATP is absent from the fluid, the transport stops. Organelles are attached by a number of points to the same thread, or sometimes to more than one thread, so they must have a number of different attachment points.

They can move from one thread to another where threads cross, like a railway train changing tracks.

Freed from the confines of the axon itself, all organelles, whatever their size, moved at the same speed of 2.2 micrometres a second (roughly a metre in four days). In the axon, bigger objects moved more slowly, probably because of friction with other cellular structures, the four neurobiologists believe.

Many puzzles remain, such as how the force to move the packages is generated, and how the transport is organized.

Source: *J Cell Biol*, vol 100, p322 (Jan, 85); *Cell*, vol 40, pp449 and 455 (Feb, 85).

Church news

Appointments

The Rev A. V. Albutt, Rector of Ashley, diocese of Lichfield, to be Chaplain of Costa Blanca, Spain, diocese of Europe.

The Rev R E Allen, Assistant Curate of St John the Baptist, Frome, and Christ Church, Frome, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Rector of Old Cleve with Leighland and Tregaswith, same diocese.

The Rev J Ambrose, Curate of St John, Workington, diocese of Carlisle, to be Rector of Montford with Shrewardine and Fitz, diocese of Lichfield, and Churches Broadcasting Officer at BBC Radio Shropshire.

The Rev D Belcher, Priest-in-charge of Christ Church, West Bromwich, diocese of Lichfield, to be Priest-in-charge of The Good Shepherd with St John, West Bromwich, same diocese.

The Rev M J Colclough, Vicar of St Anselm, Hayes, diocese of London, to be also Area Dean of Hillingdon, same diocese.

Canon J N Collie, Vicar of Ecclesall, Sheffield, and Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral, diocese of Sheffield to be also Rural Dean of Ecclesall Deanery, Sheffield.

Canon S R Cutt, Chancellor and Canon Residentiary of Wells Cathedral, and Diocesan Director of Ordinands, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Treasurer and Canon Residentiary of Wells Cathedral. He continues as Diocesan Director of Ordinands, same diocese.

The Rev P Evans, Rector of Kirkbride and Newton Arlosh, diocese of Carlisle, to be Vicar of Beckermet St John and St Bridget, with Ponsonby, same diocese.

The Rev T D Herbert, Assistant Curate of St Michael, Macclesfield, diocese of Chester, to be Vicar of Christ Church, Whaston, same diocese.

The Rev K J Hooper, Assistant Priest of Holbrooks, Coventry, diocese of Coventry, to be Vicar of Eyres Monsell, Leicester, diocese of Leicester.

The Rev N W Hutson, Curate of St Mark, Barrow, diocese of Carlisle, to be Religious Programmes Producer at BBC Radio Stoke and Broadcasting Officer, diocese of Lichfield.

The Rev G O Fairan, Rector of Ditcheat with East Pennard and Pylle, and Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be also Canon and Chancellor of Wells Cathedral, same diocese.

The Rev S T Lane, Rector of Bradfield with Buckfield and Southend, diocese of Oxford, to be Vicar of Snettisham with Ingoldisthorpe and Fring, diocese of Norwich.

The Rev F M B Lees, Incumbent of Rivers with Tarwick and Trotton with Chithurst, diocese of Chichester, to be also Rural Dean of Midhurst, same diocese.

Canon A E N Molesworth, Rector of Charlton Musgrove with Cucklington and Stoke Trister, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be also Acting Rural Dean of Bruton Deanery, same diocese.

The Rev C A R Monsoon, Assistant Curate of Holy Trinity, Bradford-on-Avon, diocese of Salisbury, to be Vicar of Broad Town Cliff Pypard and Tockenham, same diocese.

The Rev J D Reese, Vicar of St Christopher, Johore Bahru, West Malaysia, to the united benefice of Bishop's Castle with Mainstone, diocese of Hereford.

The Rev R H Salmon, Rector of St Wendreda's, March, diocese of Ely, to be Vicar of Congresbury with Puxton, diocese of Bath and Wells.

Preb E H Soulter to be Prebendary Emeritus of Exeter Cathedral on his resignation from his Prebendal Stall on April 6.

The Rev G Spencer, Assistant Priest of St Anne, Leicester, diocese of Leicester, to be Priest-in-Charge of Friday-on-the-Wreake and Kirby Bellars, same diocese.

The Rev R D Turner, Assistant Curate of Clevedon, St Andrew, diocese of Bath and Wells, to be Rector of Freshford with Limpley Stoke and Hinton Charterhouse, same diocese.

Resignations and retirements

The Rev T A Bendelow, Vicar of Warter with Huggate, diocese of York, to retire on April 30.

The Rev A Puttin retired as Rural Dean of Midhurst on March 31, but continues as Vicar of Midhurst and Rector of Woolbeding, diocese of Chichester, until June 30.

The Rev J C Worthington, Vicar of Ellingham and Hardridge and Bolton, diocese of Winchester, to retire on July 31.

University news

Oxford
Professor Angus J. MacIntyre, professor of mathematics at Yale University, has been appointed professor of mathematical logic from a date to be arranged.
Elections:
ST PETER'S COLLEGE. To a Dennis Scholarship in Engineering Science: R Fox, commoner of the college, formerly of The King's High School, Pontefract, to a Schoolmaster Studentship. Hilary Term 1986: R G Freebairn, MA, Dip Ed, Oundle School.

Newcastle
Dr John Anderson has been appointed postgraduate dean of the faculty of medicine and director of the regional postgraduate institute for medicine and dentistry from June 1. He will have the title and status of professor of medical education. Dr Anderson succeeds Professor James Parkhouse, who resigned last year.

Lord Vinson, chairman of the Development Commission, is to be the first chairman of the board of directors of the new Newcastle Technology Centre.

Heriot-Watt
Mr Michael L. Breaks, deputy librarian, University College Dublin, has been appointed Librarian at Heriot-Watt University from September 1.

THE TIMES
FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Real cost of borrowing set to remain high

Conflicting signals on interest rates were beginning to emerge in the markets yesterday. This week's money supply figures had suggested that rates were not going to fall far or fast for some time to come, and together with yesterday's sharp fall in the dollar they therefore helped to push up the pound. The sterling index closed up 0.9 at 78.2, the highest it has been since last August. Nor was yesterday's rise simply a reflection of the weaker dollar; sterling was making ground against the continentals too.

As a result, the money markets were beginning to ruminate on the possibility of a further small cut in base rates. After all, the exchange rate is one of the factors the Government takes into account when assessing monetary policy.

Nor does the cautious message continually emerging from the authorities necessarily rule out the possibility of base rates edging slightly lower. The Bank of England and Treasury want to avoid at all costs a recurrence of the kind of mess that occurred in January. They also want to bang home the message that the Government is bent on pursuing a firm monetary policy. To this end, they have firmly discouraged markets from expecting any rapid fall in rates.

But this is probably as much to do with market psychology as with the impact of the present level of interest rates could be expected to have on restraining credit demand. Base rates at 12 per cent might well be sufficient on monetary grounds, if the markets could only be persuaded to take a reduction calmly.

That looks too much to hope for at present; but the possibility of a modest half a per centage point off base rates fairly soon cannot be ruled out. The bank to watch will be Barclays, whose base rate is still at 13.25 per cent along with the Midland; while the other two big clearers stand at 13 pr cent.

Barclays is now giving more attention to the one-month than the three-month interbank rate in assessing its marginal cost of funds and deciding on base rate moves. Yesterday's rate was closng at fractionally over 13 per cent, providing justification enough for Barclays to come into line if it wants with a quarter-point cut.

Should the easier trend in money market rates continue, or appear poised to continue, Barclays could well decide to leapfrog the other banks with a half a per centage point cut to 12.75 per cent. Developments in the United States will be an important factor in the decision, and Barclays has not been under any great pressure so far to make up its mind.

Whatever it does decide, however, there is no reason to doubt that interest rates in real terms are set to remain high for some time to come.

Finishing touches to gilts regulation

The $200 million collapse of Bevill, Bresler and Schumlman – the second failure of a US government securityies dealer in a month – cannot help provide the Bank of England with some salutary lessons as it puts the finishing touches to the document due today on the American style bond market it plans to introduce in Britain next year.

In most of its aspects, the planned structure for the new gilts market looks like a carbon copy of its American counterpart – the huge and largely unregulated Treasury bond market. In some important respects, however, it will be different and the Bank of England is rightly feeling a trifle smug that had the British proposals been in place in the US, the Bovil collapse and the bigger failure last month of ESM Government Securities, might have been avoided.

In Britain, all operators in the market will come under the regulatory authority of the Stock Exchange, in marked contrast to the United States where only the 36 primary dealers are scrutinized by any kind of supervisory body. Both Bevill and ESM were highly active in the complex and unsupervised "repos" market. In Britain the functions of this market, in which bond dealers enter into sale and repurchase agreements with lenders as a way of covering short and long positions, will be performed by traditional Stock Exchange money brokers, which will be directly supervised by the Bank of England.

The trade-off in the American system is that it is highly efficient allowing the Government to finance the budget deficit at minimum cost and dealers to transact business free from the shackles of regulation on the basis of *caveat emptor*. However, the failure last month of ESM which led to the temporary shutdown of some 70 Ohio Savings and Loan Associations, showed that even if professionals ought to be able to look after their own interests, it is the small investor who is exposed when they fail.to.

It would be silly for the Bank of England and the Stock Exchange to claim that the Bevill and ESM disasters could not happen here. Nevertheless, both authorities must have been amused to hear Mr Preston Martin, the Federal Reserve Board vice-chairman, suggest "the radical notion" of self-regulation as a way forward in US financial markets in a speech to an American Bankers Association conference on safety and soundness.

He said: "Today's dynamic environment requires a greater focus upon controls. It is time for the regulatory bodies both federal and state, to investigate with seriousness the feasibility of some kind of peer review of self governance." Has he been comparing notes with our own dear central banker?

GEC paves way for next generation

The management revolution at GEC that was presaged recently in these columns has now come to pass. Sir Kenneth Bond's long and distinguished stint as Lord Weinstock's deputy and as unofficial finance director to the group has ended in his elevation to the post of vice-chairman.

That leaves room for two of the most talented executives at the next level of management to step up and effectively share Sir Kenneth's duties. Malcolm Bates becomes deputy managing director. A former merchant banker with William Brandt, he has spent nine years absorbing GEC's distinctive approach to business. The finance role is being taken by John Rogers, a career accountant with the group.

But this minor reshuffle is only part of the new mosaic which Lord Weinstock has crated. The question most tantalizing to outsiders in the past several yars - what is GEC going to do with its £1.5 bilion cash moutain? - is at least partially resolved by the establishment of an autonomous subsidiary, GEC finance, to be run by Anthony Hillier, a former Rothchild man.

"The company will be charged with the task os seeking out opportunities to improve the return available on part of the company's uncommitted liquid funds and to indentify acquisitions of, or investments in, businesses in lines of activity less directly concerned with the existing companies' business", said yesterday's statement.

That is roundabout way of saying that Mr Bates will have a free hand to deploy the group's spare funds. His only responsibility will be to make a profit for the parent company. That should go a long way to circumventing the indecision which appears to have gripped GEC in relation to these funds of late.

Lord Weinstock has also taken the opportunity to set up a British board of management, consisting of the heads of the principal divisions and other senior executives. This will operate almost as if it were the lower tier of a German two-tier board. It will discuss industrial management issues, putting to one side the questions of finance and dividend distributions. This effectively formalizes the informal forums which Lord Weinstock had been wont to hold around his desk, but which had over the years become too loose and unstructured.

Finally, Sir Alan Veale, who like Sir Kenneth Bond became 65 in February, is stepping back from the day-to-day management of the important power engineering division, which is to be broken into smaller units. This, like the other measures, will allow the next generation of managers the chance to show their paces at very nearly the highest level.

Indeed, the whole thrust of the changes suggests that GEC is paving the way for the previously unthinkable prospect of life after Lord Weinstock. The struggle for the succession should prove fascinating.

Business chiefs fight changes in National Insurance

By Sarah Hogg and William Kay

The Institute of Directors is mounting a campaign to persuade the Government to maintain an upper limit on employers' National Insurance contributions, after the Budget announcement that the ceiling would be abolished in October.

In a letter to the Social Services Secretary and the Chancellor, the IoD's director-general, Sir John Hoskyns (formerly head of Mrs Thatcher's policy unit), claims abolition will cost companies like ICI and STC an extra £4.5 million and £7.5 million a year respectively, and "adversely affects many of the sorts of business which are crucial to the capacity of this country".

The IoD is hoping to get an amendment to the Social Security Bill tabled in the Commons. The Bill is to be debated on Monday.

The IoD says it has received "many letters and phone calls", although apparently only 15 members have written in to protest. The Confederation of British Industry also says it has received many protest from members, and intends to raise the issue at a council meeting next Wednesday.

However, the Treasury published figures yesterday in its monthly Economic Progress Report suggesting that the abolition of the ceiling will affect the employers of only 8 per cent of the total workforce, while the simultaneous reductions in employers, National Insurance rates for the lower-paid will cut the cost of employing about 40 per cent of the total workforce - 8.5 million employees earning less than £130 per week.

The reduction in employees' rates will benefit up to 3.5 million people earning less than £90 a week, including one million families with children, according to the Treasury, which also claims that for the "vast majority" at the 1.75 million people affected by the abolition of the ceiling, the increase in employment costs will be only 2 to 3 per cent.

Sir John Hoskyns: fighting abolition of ceiling.

The changes in contributions for the self-employed will benefit about 1.75 million people, according to the Treasury, at a cost of £100 million a year.

The IOD supports the reduction of contributions for the lowr-paid, but argues that the Chancellor should have financed this by borrowing more.

Sir John's letter describes the abolition of the ceiling as an "earned income surcharge", and suggest that it could be raised from its present level of under £14,000 a year to about £22,000.

However, the implicitly accepts that the higher-paid should pay higher contributions by urging a long-term integration of income tax and National Insurance.

The Treasury argues that the first step in this direction – turning the starting-point for National Insurance into a "threshold" similar to that for income tax, with earnings below that level entirely exempt – would have cost £6.5 billion a year.

Trade curbs dominate OECD talks

From Eduardo Cue
Paris

The European Economic Community believes that the new round of trade talks being urged by the United States should e accompanied by parallel negotiations on monetary and financial issues, Mr Willy de Clercq, the European Commission member for external relations and trade, said yesterday.

Mr de Clercq told reporters on the first day of the annual ministerial meeting of the organization for Economic Co-operation and Development that the problems of trade, budget defacits and monetary fluctuations were interrelated and should be dealt with in negotiations the success of which would be linked to progress at the trade talks.

Mr Paul Channon, the British trade minister, told the conference he supported the call for a new round of the talks, known as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt).

The protectionist issue is clearly a great concern of the meeting, and, as usual, the finger is being pointed at the Japanese.

Mr de Clercq said at his press conference that the EEC wanted to see results in the efforts to lower Japanese trade barriers, and called Tokyo's latest measures modest and questionable.

The former Belgian finance minister outlined three conditions for the Gatt talks to succeed. The talks should be credible, meaning that the agreement reached in previous negotiations should be respected, a reference not only to Japan but also to the US, where he said 127 protectionist measures had been introduced in Congress.

Secondly, talks on monetary and financial issue should be held simultaneously with the trade talks under the auspices of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Finally, the problems with Japan, with whom the EEC has a $11 billion trade deficit, must be resolved.

Mr de Clercq said a principal goal of the monetary talks should be to stop what he called the "errativ movements" of currencies, meaning the dollar. He suggested this could be done by intervening in the financial markets.

Cons Gold to sell US assets

Consolidated Gold Fields, the mining finance house, hopes to raise up to £150 million from the sale of its North American industrial assets and from two divisions of Bath and Portland, the cement group.

Gold Fields said yesterday it was putting up for sale the companies in Gold Fields American Industries.

The American companies cover steel making, fabrication and distribution, and the manufacture of oil and water drilling equipment.

US retail sales fall to three-year low

From Bailey Morris, Washington

US retail sales dropped an unexpected 1.9 per cent last month in the largest monthly decline since January 1982.

The fall in monthly spending provided additional evidence of slowing US growth which has caused economists to revise downwards their estimates for this year.

Mr Robert Ortner, chief economist for the US Commerce Department, said yesterday the Reagan Administration's estimate of 4 per cent growth this year now appears too optimistic given the March results and an earlier prediction of sluggish growth of only 2.1 per cent in the first quarter.

The poor sales in March appear to be part of a process in which the US economy "is settling down to a lower plateau" of growth than it achieved last year when the economy grew at a strong pace of 6.8 per cent, Mr Ortner said.

Based on the new data, he said 4 per cent growth will be difficult to achieve this year. His prediction was in line with a recent world economic forecast by the International Monetary Fund of slower growth in the industrialized world of 3.2 per cent this year and 2.9 per cent next, down from 4.8 per cent last year. The IMF forecast does not see a resurgence of growth in Europe this year.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, gave a warning in a speech earlier this week that he feared US growth would weaken markedly because of huge imbalances in the economy caused by record budget and trade deficits.

Mr Volcker said his biggest concern was that large sectors of the economy in manufacturing, agriculture and mining were being left out of the recovery enjoyed elsewhere in the economy.

The strong recovery last year was led by a surge in consumer spending which officials had hoped would carry over this year at a level to maintain year-end growth of 4 per cent and possibly more. But commerce officials said consumers appear to be scaling back their spending plans.

French Connection profit hit by Gandhi murder

By Our City Staff

The assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi last October cost French Connection, the women's fashion group, a month's production as the Indian nation went into mourning. That was one reason why the group's profit for the year to January emerged yesterday as £7.5 million against earlier expectations of as much as £9 million.

The latest figures are not comparable with the previous year's £3.3 million because of a first-time contribution from Best of All Clothing, the United States distributor which was brought into the group in the autumn. This contribution amounted to £4.5 million, which in itself was less than the market had been hoping for.

The shares perked up on the news at first, but later fell back to close the day at 260p, down 3p. Six months ago they were 425p and recently dropped 100p when the American problems began to filter through. The final dividend is 3.5p, making a total up from 2.6p to 5.25p.

STC pays big rises to board

By Jonathan Davis
Business Correspondent

Big pay rises for the chairman and directors of STC, the telecommunications group, were disclosed yesterday, along with further details of how its controversial takeover of ICL last year helped to make more than £1 million for ICL's former managing director, Dr Robb Wilmot.

STC's annual report and accounts disclose that the pay of Sir Kenneth Cornfield, the chairman, was increased by almost 50 per cent last year from £201,000 to £297,000. Eight directors earned between £105,000 and £140,000, whereas in the previous year the highest paid director apart from the chairman received less than £95,000.

The accouints show that Dr Wilmot was paid £190,844 as compensation when he gave up his full-time executive responsibilities at ICL after the STC takeover in September. He reamins part-time chairman of ICL, however, and is being paid a basic salary of £80,000 a year by STC.

The accounts disclose a second agreement which qualifies him to be paid £2,000 a day for any extra work he carries out

The accounts also confirm that Dr Wilmot has no shares in STC, having exercised and then sold options on more than 1.6 million ICL shares – worth around £1.5 million – during the takeover last summer.

Since the overwhelming majority of his shares were exercisable at just under 30p each, compared with STC's cash offer of 90p a share, the figures imply that Dr Wilmot netted more than £900,000

Sir Michael Edwarde's, ICL's former chairman, also made money out of his share options after the takeover, and is reported to have received in addition £380,000 comnpensation for loss of office.

IN BRIEF

Pound gains 3 cents

Sterling again proved the main beneficiary of the falling dollar yesterday and it climbed against most leading currencies, pushing the sterling index up by nearly a point to 78.2, its highest level since the middle of last year. The pound ended more than 3 cents higher than the previous close at $1.2480, having opened the day modestly higher at $1.2285. Sterling also gained slightly against the mark, ending almost three pfennigs up at DM3.8392.

Although the dollar's fall on signs of slackening economic growth and possible lower interest rates was the engine of foreign exchange market movements, the pound was undoubtedly the speculators' favoured alternative because of Britain's high interest rates and the new Treasury policy of maintaining a tough interest rate regime. Although small interest rate cuts might have little effect, dealers believe that sterling's relatively high level against the mark is now the limiting factor in its appreciation against the dollar.

Refuge Assurance is to buy Canterbury Life Assurance for £3.5 million with the issue of up to 1,038,610 Refuge ordinary shares. These will not be entitled to the special interim dividend of 7.75p payable on May 20.

Riley slides

Riley Leisure, the snooker clubs to fitness equipment group, has reported a pretax loss of £1.2 million for 1984 against a £2.5 million profit last time. Turnover fell from £25.1 million to £22.6 million. No final dividend on the ordinary or preference shares will be paid

Tempus, page 19

No to Goldsmith

Crown Zellerbach, the San Francisco forest products group, yesterday rejected Sir James Goldsmith's $807 million (670 million) takeover bid. The Board also decided not to redeem the common stock purchase capital rights as requested by Sir James.

The US offshoot of British Car Auction, Anglo American Auto Auction is about to clinch a $7 million (£5.6 million) property deal for its first American "greefield" auction site near Los Angles.

Burmah up £5m

Burmah Oil is to pay a final dividend of 7.25p (6.25p) making a total for the year to December 31, 1984 of 10.75p, after pretax profits rose from £65 million to £70 million.

Tempus, page 19

VW recovers

Volkswagen, West Germany's leading car manufacturer, is to pay its first dividend in three years after recovering from heavy losses toshow an undisclosed profit in 1984. It increased sales last year by 14 per cent to a record DM45.7 billion (£12 billion).

Tebbit to press Japan on trade

By Our Business Correspondent

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Trade and Industry Secretary, is to have talks with Nissan and Honda during his four-day visit to Japan next week.

He is expected to use the visit to support American demands for Japan to move more quickly in opening up its domestic markets to foreign trade.

He will also be seeking more details from the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, about the "buy foreign" campaign which Mr Nakasone announced this week.

The talks with the two Japanese motor manufacturers will arouse more speculation that an announcement about further links between Honda and BL, could be imminent.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	957.4 (−2.9)
FT- A All Share	
FT Govt Securities	81.21 (+0.17)
FT-SE 100	1,269.3 (−3.8)
Bargains	25698
Datastream USM	111.01 (−0.94)
New York	
Dow Jones	1,285.23 (+5.30)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12,573.80 (−28.13)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	1,483.39 (+12.78)
Sydney: AO	863.2 (+10.0)
Amsterdam:	205.6 (+1.7)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1,202.3 (−2.4)
Brussels:	
General	262.82 (−5.45)
Paris: CAC	218.2 (+1.5)
Zurich:	
SKA General	341.70 (+0.40)

GOLD

London fixing:
am $329 pm-$332.25
close $331-$331.50
New York:
Comex (latest) $332.75

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Milford Docks	66 +11
Utd Guarantee	23 +3
Greenwich Cable	23 +3
Eglinton Oil	68 +8
Burnett & Hallam	50 +5
Stothert & Pitt	133 +12
Alphameric	109 +9
Bentalls	101 +12
Debenhams	244 +17
Pentland Ind	584 +25
Falcon Res	459 +12
Burmah Oil	221 +12
Grattan	204 +12
FALLS:	
Spectrum	40 −10
Atlantic Cop	£10 −1¾
Boustead	83 −12
Anglia TV	120 −13
Minet Hldgs	290 −6
DRG Group	161 −4
C E Heath	610 −5
ICI	744 −15
Matt Brown	418 −18
Gadek (Mly)	£2 −25

CURRENCIES

London:
£: $1.2470 (+0.0290)
£: DM 3.8390 (+0.0157)
£: SwFr 3.2425 (+0.0201)
£: FFr 11.7100(+0.0733)
£: Yen 314.30 (+4.57)
£ Index: 78.2 (+0.9)
New York:
£: $1.2560
$: DM 3.0635
$ Index: 146.0 (−1.4)
ECU: £0.584012
SDR: £0.612526

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 13¼-13%
3-month Interbank 12 15/16-13¾
3-month eligible bills: 12¼–12⅛
buying rate
US:
Prime Rate 1050%
Federal Funds 8¾%
3-month Treasury Bills 8.30–8.26%
Long bond 98 31/32 99 1/32 yield

International Thomson

Another record year

Group results in brief

	1984 £ million	1983 £ million
Sales	1,734.9	1,503.5
Trading profit	170.0	154.8
Earnings*	97.9	75.7
Earnings per share*	33.5p	26.9p

*before extraordinary items

● In 1984 we achieved record earnings before extraordinary items of £97.9 million, an increase of 29.3% over 1983.

● Earnings per share before extraordinary items rose from 26.9p to 33.5p.

● We invested £45.8 million in our North Sea and other oil businesses; £74.1 million in Travel principally on two Boeing 767 aircraft; and £61.0 million in Publishing and Information, including £26.6 million for acquisitions.

● Our balance sheet strengthened and year-end cash balances were £130.2 million.

International Thomson is a leading publishing and information company with strong interests in travel and oil and gas. Our strategy is to build and acquire quality businesses to underpin the Group's continuing growth and prosperity.

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Name
Position
Company
Address
TT

WALL STREET

	Apr 10	Apr 9
AMF Inc	18¼	18⅛
AMR	40⅝	40⅝
Allied Corp	40⅛	40½
Allied Stores	55¼	56
Allis Chalmers	6⅝	6⅞
Alcoa	34½	34¼
Amax Inc	18⅛	18
Amerada Hess	30¼	30⅝
Am Brands	67⅝	67⅞
Am Broadcast	105½	105½
Am Can	52½	52⅝
Am Cyanamid	54⅝	53⅝
Am Elec Power	21⅝	21½
Am Express	42	41
Am Home	60½	60⅝
Am Motors	3⅝	3¼
Am Nat Res	64	64
Am Standard	30⅝	29½
Am Telephone	21	20⅝
Armco Steel	7⅝	7⅞
Asarco	26	26⅛
Ashland Oil	29⅞	29⅝
Atlntic Richfield	45¼	45¼
Avon Products	21	20⅞
Bankers Tst NY	67	67
Bankamerica	18⅞	18¼
Bank of Boston	45	45
Bank of NY	39	38⅝
Beatrice Foods	30⅛	30¼
Bethlehem Steel	17⅝	17⅝
Boeing	50	58⅝
Boise Cascade	38	37¼
Borden	69⅛	68
Borg Warner	20½	20⅛
Bristol Myers	56⅝	56½
BP	26⅝	26½
Burlington Ind	26⅛	26⅝
Burlington Nthn	52	50⅝
Burroughs	58½	59
Campbell Soup	69⅝	69⅝
Canadian Pacific	43⅛	42½
Caterpillar	30⅝	30⅝
Celanese	94⅝	92⅝
Central Soya	24	24
Champion	20⅝	20⅝
Chase Manhat	53½	52⅞
Chem Bank NY	39	38⅞
Chevron	35¼	35¼
Chrysler	35⅞	35¼
Citicorp	44⅝	43½
Clark Equip	29½	29½
Coca Cola	68⅛	68⅝
Colgate	24	23⅝
CBS	98	107⅝
Columbia Gas	29⅝	29⅝
Combustion Eng	35	35⅝
Comwlth Edison	29⅛	29⅝
Cons Edison	32⅛	32
Cons Power	9¼	9¼
Control Data	31	30⅝
Corning Glass	35⅝	35⅝
CPC Intl	42½	42¼
Crane	34¼	34¼
Crocker Inc	25¼	25½
Crown Zeller	42	41½
Dart & Kraft	89⅝	91½
Deere	29	29⅝
Delta Air	44⅛	44⅛
Detroit Edison	16½	16¾
Digital Equip	104⅝	101⅝
Disney	78¼	79¼
Dow Chemical	29⅝	29⅝
Dresser Ind	20¼	20⅛
Duke Power	32⅝	32¼
Du Pont	53⅝	52¼
Eastern Air	8	8⅛
Eastman Kodak	88⅛	88½
Eaton Corp	50½	49⅞
Emerson Elect	71⅛	71¼
Evans Prod	2	2⅛
Exxon Corp	50⅝	50½

	Apr 10	Apr 9
Fed Dept Stores	55½	54⅞
Firestone	18½	18⅛
Fst Chicago	23¼	23
Fst Intrst Bncp	45⅞	46⅝
Fst Penn Corp	7⅝	7⅞
Ford	43⅞	42⅝
GAF Corp	30⅝	30¼
GTE Corp	39⅝	40¼
Gen Corp	44⅞	44⅝
Gen Dynamics	68	68⅞
Gen Electric	59⅛	59⅝
Gen Foods	61⅛	60⅞
Gen Mills	56½	56¼
Gen Motors	73⅝	72¼
Gen Pub Util NY	12⅝	12½
Genesco	5¼	5¼
Georgia Pacific	22¼	22⅝
Gillette	59⅛	60⅛
Goodrich	30⅛	30½
Goodyear	27⅛	26⅝
Gould Inc	23½	23¼
Grace	42	41⅝
Gt Atlic & Pacific	18	17⅛
Greyhound	26½	26⅞
Grumman Corp	25⅝	25⅛
Gulf & West	34¼	35
Heinz H. J.	46¼	46⅝
Hercules	33⅝	33¼
Honeywell	56¼	57
IC Inds	33⅛	33
Ingersoll	45½	45⅝
Inland Steel	23⅝	23⅝
IBM	125¼	124⅝
Int Harvester	9¼	9⅝
INCO	13⅛	13⅝
Int Paper	49	48½
Int Tel Tel	33¼	34⅛
Irving Bank	35	34⅝
Jim Walter	33⅛	33½
Johnson & John	41⅛	40⅝
Kaiser Alumin	14⅞	14⅝
Kerr McGee	30⅝	30⅛
Kimberly Clark	50⅛	50⅛
K Mart	32⅝	32⅝
Kroger	41⅞	40⅝
L.T.V. Corp	10⅛	10⅛
Litton	66½	66⅝
Lockheed	46½	46
Lucky Stores	19⅛	19⅛
Manuf Hanover	36⅝	35⅝
Manville Cp	7⅝	7⅛
Mapco	32¼	32
Marine Midland	33½	32⅝
Martin Marietta	50½	48⅝
McDonnell	74½	73¼
Mead	36½	36½
Merck	102¼	102⅝
Minnesota Mng	80⅝	80⅝
Mobil Oil	29⅝	29¼
Monsanto	42⅝	42½
Morgan J. P.	47⅝	46⅝
Motorola	32½	31⅞
NCR Corp	27⅞	27⅝
NL Industries	11½	11½
Nabisco	58½	57⅞
Nat Distillers	30⅝	30⅝
Nat Med Ent	27⅛	27
Norfolk South	68½	65⅛
NW Bancorp	25½	25⅛
Occidental Pet	30	29⅝
Ogden	31⅛	30⅝
Olin Corp	30⅛	30⅛
Owens-Illinois	43⅝	43⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	17½	17½
Pan Am	5⅛	5⅛
Penney J. C.	47⅝	47⅝
Pennzoil	47⅝	46⅝
Pepsico	53	52⅝
Pfizer	42⅝	42¼
Phelps Dodge	20	20
Philip Morris	64½	63⅝

	Apr 10	Apr 9
Phillips Petrol	39⅛	38½
Polaroid	29⅝	29⅝
PPG Ind	37½	37⅝
Proctor Gamble	52⅝	53
Pub Ser El & Gas	27⅝	27⅝
Raytheon	44½	44½
RCA Corp	41⅝	41⅝
Reynolds Ind	64½	64⅝
Reynolds Metal	38½	38
Rockwell Int	33⅝	32⅝
Royal Dutch	57½	56⅝
Safeways	31⅝	31½
Sara Lee	37½	37½
SFE Sopac	26⅝	26⅝
SCM	44	43⅝
Schlumberger	38½	37⅝
Scott Paper	37	36½
Seagram	39¼	39⅝
Sears Roebuck	33½	33½
Shell Oil	59½	59½
Shell Trans	36⅝	36½
Signal Co	34½	33⅝
Singer	34½	33½
Smithkline Beck	63⅝	63⅝
Sony	17⅝	17
Sth Cal Edison	24½	24
Sperry Corp	49½	50⅝
Std Oil Indiana	61½	61
Std Oil Ohio	47⅛	46⅝
Sterling Drug	30	29½
Stevens J. P.	17½	17½
Sun Comp	49⅛	48½
Teledyne	239½	238
Tenneco	42⅝	41½
Texaco	35⅝	35¼
Texas East Corp	31	31
Texas Inst	112⅝	110⅝
Texas Utilities	28½	28½
Textron	44⅝	43½
TWA	32½	33
Travelers Corp	41½	41
TRW Inc	72½	73
UAL Inc	44½	44½
Union Carbide	37⅝	37⅝
Unocal	48⅝	48
Un Pacific Corp	47½	47⅝
Uniroyal	18½	17⅝
United Brands	13⅝	13
US Steel	27	27
Utd Technol	39⅝	39⅝
Wachovia	33⅝	33⅝
Warner Lambert	36½	37⅝
Wells Fargo	55¼	54½
Westnghse Elec	29⅝	29⅝
Weyerhauser	28	27⅝
Whirlpool	43⅝	44⅛
Woolworth	41⅝	41⅛
Xerox Corp	44	43
Zenith	20⅛	20⅝

CANADIAN PRICES

	Apr 10	Apr 9
Abitibi	51	52½
Alcan Alumin	35⅝	35
Algoma Steel	23⅝	23¼
Bell Telephone	38⅝	38⅝
Can Pacific	59⅝	59
Cominco	15½	15½
Cons Bathurst	16⅝	16⅝
Gulf Oil	19⅝	19½
Hawker/Sid Can	20½	20¼
Hudson Bay Min	7⅝	7⅝
Imasco	25½	26
Imperial Oil	54¼	54⅛
Int Pipe	35⅝	36½
Mass.-Fergsn	2.65	3.10
Royal Trustco	18½	19
Seagram	83⅝	82⅝
Steel Co	20½	20⅝
Thomson N 'A'	57¼	57⅛
Walker Hiram	29	29½
WCT	16	16½

● Ex div. a Asked. d Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

IBM beats profit fears

New York, (AP-Dow Jones) – Shares gave up some of the gains they made on opening, but remained broadly higher in active early trading, yesterday.

The Dow Jones industrial index was up about six points at 1,266. After the first 15 minutes of trading it was up about eight.

Advancing issues led declines by about 7-to-4.

International Business Machines was up 1 at 126⅞ after reporting first quarter net profits of $1.61 a share against a year earlier. Mr Michael Geran, a computer analyst with E. F. Hutton, said scare estimates by some Wall Street analysts had convinced investors the IMP's earning would be even lower. "Now it looks like IBM will get a triple play in the second half of 1985. The dollar will be lower, shipments of its Sierra mainframe will be going out and the company will be selling its double-density 380 computers", Mr Geran said.

General Motors was up ⅜ at 73¼ and Ford, which raised its quarterly dividend, was up ½ at 43½. Chrysler rose ¼ to 36⅛.

CBS down 9⅞ on Wednesday amid speculation that investor Ivan Boesky was selling some of his 8.7 per cent stake in the company, was up 1⅜ at 99¼. Donaldson Lufkin Jenrette and First Manhattan analysts both recommended CBS shares

Combustion Engineering was down 3 at 32 after reporting that it expected to post first quarter earnings below last year's 35 cents a share.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Three Month Sterling					
Jun 85	88.10	88.21	88.03	88.19	1500
Sep 85	88.89	88.95	88.83	88.92	275
Dec 85	89.03	89.11	89.05	89.08	46
Mar 86	89.05	89.06	89.06	89.18	23
Jun 86	89.05	89.05	89.05	89.15	13
Previous day's total open interest 5887					
Three Month Eurodollar					
Jun 85	90.47	90.72	90.47	90.70	4382
Sep 85	89.87	90.13	89.86	90.13	1108
Dec 85	89.38	89.66	89.38	89.65	172
Mar 86	89.00	89.12	88.90	89.25	37
Jun 86	NT			88.94	0
Previous day's total open interest 18476					
US Treasury Bond					
Jun 85	70-01	70-28	70-00	70-28	1960
Sep 85	69-28	69-28	69-27	69-25	21
Previous day's total open interest 3300					
Long Gilt					
Jun 85	106-26	106-31	106-17	106-27	2110
Sep 85	NT			110-21	0
Dec 85	NT			110-23	0
Mar 86	NT			110-12	0
Jun 86	NT			110-12	0
Previous day's total open interest 2019					
FT-SE 100					
Sep 85	127.70	127.70	126.85	127.20	261
Sep 85	NT			127.95	0
Dec 85	NT				
Previous day's total open interest 1102					

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Rubber in £'s per tonne; Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; Gas-oil in US $ per metric tonne.
G W Joynson and Co report

RUBBER	
May	790–05
Jun	740–15
Jul	750–25
Aug	760–35
Sep	770–45
Oct	780–55
Nov	790–65
Dec	800–75
Jan	unquoted
Jul/Sep	760–35
Oct/Dec	790–85
Jan/Mar	unquoted
Vol	nil
SUGAR	
May	110.5–10.4
Aug	115.4–15.2
Oct	119.0–18.8
Dec	120.0–20.0
Mar	137.2–37.0
May	141.8–41.6
Aug	147.8–45.0
Vol	2842
COCOA	
May	1939–38
Jly	1922–21
Sep	1892–88
Dec	1839–36
Mar	1838–36
May	1845–37
Jly	1850–45
Vol	2346/3607
COFFEE	
May	2110–08
Jly	2158–55
Sep	2188–86
Nov	2210–05
Jan	2210–06
Mar	2200–2180
May	2180–2160
Vol	210

GAS OIL	
Apr	23075–30.50
May	22775–2750
Jnl	225.00–24.75
Jly	22475–24.25
Aug	22175–2250
Sep	23050–2700
Oct	23350–2700
Nov	23650–2800
Dec	23900–2900
Vol	nil

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Unofficial prices: Official turnover figures
Prices in pounds per metric ton. Silver in pence per troy ounce
Rudolf Wolff & Co. Ltd. report

COPPER HIGH GRADE	
Cash	1204-1205
Three months	1212-1213
T/O	21125
Tone	Easy
STANDARD CATHODES	
Cash	1201-1203
Three months	1212-1214
T/O	Nil
Tone	Idle
TIN STANDARD	
Cash	9790-9800
Three months	9780-9790
T/O	490
Tone	Easy
TIN HIGH-GRADE	
Cash	9790-9800
Three months	9780-9790
T/O	Nil
Tone	Idle
LEAD	
Cash	312-313
Three months	313.5-314.5
T/O	2725
Tone	Steady

ZINC STANDARD	
Cash	717-719
Three months	722-723
T/O	3975
Tone	Steady
ZINC HIGH GRADE	
Cash	751-753
Three months	753-755
T/O	100
Tone	Quiet
SILVER LARGE	
Cash	537.0-538.0
Three months	554.5-555.0
T/O	10
Tone	Quiet
SILVER SMALL	
Cash	537.0-538.0
Three months	554.0-555.0
T/O	Nil
Tone	Idle
ALUMINIUM	
Cash	894.50-895.50
Three months	911.50-912.00
T/O	6275
Tone	Easy
NICKEL	
Cash	4335-4340
Three months	4340-4345
T/O	972
Tone	Easier

LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET
London Gold Futures were unaudited yesterday

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 11:
GB: Cattle, 96.59p per kg lw (+1.53).
GB: Sheep, 257.83p per kg est d c w (+16.15).
GB: Pigs, 80.95p per kg lw (-0.98).

England and Wales
Cattle nos. up 123.1 per cent, ave. price, 96.67p (+1.27).
Sheep nos. up 227.9 per cent, ave. price, 258.62p (+11.88).
Pig nos. up 164.8 per cent, ave. price, 80.81p (-0.08).
Scotland:
Cattle nos. up 20.1 per cent, ave. price, 96.57p (+1.27).
Sheep nos. up 39.2 per cent, ave. price, 261.19p (+28.13).
Pig nos. up 27.5 per cent, ave. price, 85.03p (+1.78).

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES MARKET

Month	Wheat Close	Barley Close
May	£128.80	£116.40
Jly	£124.75	£124.75
Sep	£98.80	£98.85
Nov	£102.65	£102.70
Jan	£105.45	£105.10
Mar	£109.70	£109.10

Total lots traded
Wheat 366
Barley 22

APPOINTMENTS

Hill Samuel Pensions Investment Management: Mr David Ives has joined the board.

BUPA Medical Centre: Mr Eric Hemming is now the executive director.

Alfred Dunhill: Mr Alan Catling has been made marketing director.

Laura Ashley Holdings: Lord Hooson has become a non-executive director.

Dai-Ichi Kangyo International: Mr Mark Nicholson has been made executive director, with responsibility for new issues and syndication.

Lee Cooper Group: Mr Will Massmann is the new finance director.

Lunn Poly: Mr John MacNeil is to become managing director and chief executive. Mr Paul Brett transfers to Thomson Holidays as managing director. Both appointments take effect from next Monday.

McCorquodale Publishers Products: Mr E. H. L. Wallace, is chairman. Mr P. Medley, Mr K. Clarke and Mr R. J. Beese are divisional directors.

Ideal Homes Holdings: Mr David Bell has become managing director of Ideal Homes (Western) Mr Jonathan Spencer director and general manager of Ideal Homes (Solent).

Harrisons & Crosfield: Mr George William Paul is a director.

Waverley Asset Management of Edinburgh: Mr Ken Renton has joined the board as an executive director in London.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
180	162	Aberdeen	170	-1	7.5	4.4	..
151	87½	Alex	98	..	3.0b	2.1	..
209	175	Alliance	201	● +11	34.0	4.9	..
135	116	Amer Trust	130	-1	4.1	3.1	..
302	234	Ang Amer Sec	270	● ..	8.1	3.0	..
146	130	Ashdown	130	+1	3.9	3.0	..
120	99	Atlantic Assets	109	..	3.4b	3.1	..
102	88	Baillie Gifford	95	-1	3.6b	3.7	..
194	167	Berry	175	+1	1.4	0.8	..
178	152	Border & Sthrn	157	-1	4.7	3.0	..
107	101	Br Amer Gen	101	● ..	3.7	3.7	..
216	192	Br Assets	194	● -1	8.7b	4.5	..
30½	26	Br Empire Sec	27½	+½	1.3	4.7	..
573	503	British Inv	549	..	16.5b	3.0	..
79	64	Brunner	71	..	3.0	4.2	..
83	72	Charter Agency	82	..	3.1b	3.7	..
660	525	Continental	540	..	20.7b	4.0	..
170	161	Crescent Japan	161	-2	1.1	0.8	..
405	365	Delta	375	..	..	..	..
106	95	Derby Inc	98	..	10.9	10.4	..
103	87	Do Cap	97	-1	..	..	..
285	254	Drayson Cons	265	-1	12.7	4.8	..
148	126	Drayson Far East	139	-3	1.4	1.0	..
400	375	Drayson Japan	378	-5	3.0	0.8	..
412	380	Drayson Premier	390	-4	18.5	4.7	..
180	162	Dundee Lon	170	+2	6.7	3.9	..
235	175	Edin Amer Assets	195	● -4	1.3	0.7	..
117	105	Edinburgh	107	..	3.7	3.5	..
280	234	Electric Gen	250	-1	4.8b	1.7	..
291	258	English Int	264	..	6.6b	2.5	..
78	68	English Scot	68	-1	1.8	2.6	..
120½	91	English NY	108	● ..	3.8	3.5	..
97	85	F & C Alliance	88	-1	2.1	2.7	..
158	128	F & C Pacific	141	-3	1.8b	1.4	..
212	186	Family	212	..	9.9	4.7	..
278	242	First Scot Amer	264	● +1	12.8b	6.1	..
196	180	First Un Gen	180	● ..	8.7b	4.8	..
500	440	Fleming American	500	..	7.7	1.5	..
253	226	Fleming Claver	235	-1	10.4	4.3	..
289	237	Fleming Enterprise	283	..	11.1	4.4	..
289	237	Fleming Far East	282	-4	8.9	1.9	..
109	100	Fleming Fledgling	108	-1	1.8	1.7	..
540	518	Fleming Japan	521	● -10	4.3	0.8	..
119	108	Fleming Mercantile	118	● +1	4.3	3.6	..
135	105	Fleming Overseas	128	-2	3.3b	2.1	..
159	145	Fleming Tech	154	+2	2.1	1.4	..
284	237	Fleming Universal	264	+3	9.8	3.9	..
140	127	For Col	135	..	3.5	2.7	..
181	68	GBC Capital	100	-1	..	..	..
199	189	G'Target	190	-3	8.0b	4.2	..
616	550	General Funds	586	● ..	13.3	2.3	..
281	230	General Cons	260	..	13.1	5.0	..

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
155	135	Glasgow Stock	143	..	3.9	2.8	..
208	180	Globe	202	..	12.9	4.9	..
232	202	Greenfriar	214	..	2.3	1.1	..
275	230	Gresham House	250	..	6.7	2.5	..
158	126	Hambros	151	..	3.4	2.3	..
254	225	Hill (P)	234	..	10.3	4.4	..
540	503	Invest in Success	508	● -2	7.0	1.4	..
225	215	Inv Cap	213	● -1	5.3b	2.4	..
89	80	Japan Assets	88	-1½	0.1	0.1	..
325	285	Lake View	298	-4	6.4	2.2	..
181	166	Law Debenture	172	● -1	7.9	4.6	..
79	65	Lon Merchant Sec	75	+1	2.3	3.7	..
107	92	Lon Trust	97	-1	2.9	4.1	..
96	84	Manbaffin	91	● -2	5.4b	5.9	..
174	153	Monks	157	-1	3.4b	2.3	..
119	108	Murray Income	118	-1	8.4b	7.1	..
80	68	Murray Growth	80	● -1	2.0	2.5	..
134	117	Murray Intl	118	● ..	5.4b	4.6	..
186	165	Murray Small	170	-2	3.3	1.9	..
283	270	Murray Venture	280	..	6.5b	2.3	..
199	158	New Court	200	-2	20.4	5.0	..
77	67	New Darien Oil	71	● ..	0.6	0.7	..
170	147	1928	148	● -1	5.7	3.9	..
38½	37	Nineteen Int 85	38½	..	0.7	1.8	..
53	49	New Tokyo	50	-1	2.1	1.1	..
304	265	Nth Atlantic Sec	290	-4	4.0	1.8	..
122	104	Nth Sea Assets	105	..	5.7	5.7	..
283	245	Nthn Amer	250	+1	7.7	3.1	..
139	125	Outwich	131	-1	4.1	3.1	..
48	38	Personal Assets	48	● ..	1.1	2.3	..
340	305	Raeburn	314	-2	13.5	4.3	..
187	156	River & Merc	165	..	7.1	4.4	..
128	110	River Plate	117	..	10.8	4.7	..
182	170	Robeco	171	..	..	..	..
171	150	Rolinco	155	..	..	..	..
257	235	Romney	245	-2	6.8	2.7	..
21½	19	Rowcroft	21½	..	..	..	..
113	99	St Andrews	104	● ..	2.7	3.9	..
273	243	Scottish	248	-1	7.4	3.0	..
217	190	Scot American	217	-1	6.0	2.7	..
197	145	Scot Eastern	191	● -1	6.4	3.4	..
408	356	Scot Mtge	375	-2	8.7b	2.3	..
243	212	Scot Nat	223	-1	6.1	2.7	..
128	110	Scot Nthn	125	..	4.7	3.8	..
218	190	Scot Nwtn 'A'	203	-4	13.1	6.4	..
880	800	Second Alliance	845	-5	30.4b	3.7	..
121	100	Sec Of Scotland	110	+1	5.3b	4.7	..
79	64	Smaller Cos	71	-1	2.3	3.1	..
57	51	Stewart Enterp	56	..	2.1b	3.7	..
146	113	Stockholders	135	-1	4.4b	3.7	..
100	87	Tr Australia	91	..	2.9	3.1	..

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
88	76	Tr City Of Lon Dfd	81	..	4.4b	5.5	..
150	139	Tr Ind & Gen	148	-1	4.8b	3.2	..
255	224	Tr Natural Res	247	..	10.7	4.3	..
223	185	Tr North America	185	-1	4.8b	2.6	..
285	273	Tr Pacific Basin	275	● -2	2.8	1.0	..
148	134	Tr Property	148	..	4.7	3.2	..
111	88	Tr Tech	97	..	2.4	2.7	..
187	164	Tr Trustees	179	..	4.8	2.6	..
122	111	Temple Bar	119	..	6.8	5.8	..
231	211	Throgmorton	228	..	10.7	4.8	..
180	158	Throg Secured Cap	161	-2	..	..	..
167	147	Trans Oceanic	159	..	4.8b	3.1	..
139	120	Tribune	111	..	6.2	5.5	..
85	70	Tst Investment Inc	79	+1	12.4	15.7	..
216	198	US Debenture	197	● -1	9.5	4.7	..
82	72	Viking Resources	75	..	1.9	2.5	..
77	61	Westpool	70	+2	2.9	3.8	..
118	88	Winterbottom Energy	102	..	1.0	1.0	..
180	138	Witan	159	..	3.8	2.5	..
384	285	Yeoman	362	..	12.3	4.4	..

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
420	348	Abrdn & Stoneham	360	..	26.6	7.4	18.4
40½	31½	Aberdeen Express	33½	● -½	..	..	..
38	31	Argyle	33	..	..	..	15.5
83	69	Bankers	80	..	4.3	5.4	..
115	90	Brit Amer Arrow	94	-2	5.1	5.4	14.3
119	101	Brit Pacific	109	-1	..	..	..
47	30	Do Warrants	38	..	..	..	..
18½	8½	Daily Mail	213	+½	10.5	4.9	15.8
13½	8½	Do 'A'	213½	..	10.5	4.9	15.8
137	113	Bisgas	118	-1	5.1	4.3	21.7
106	89	Eng Assets	100	..	4.3b	4.3	14.3
104	83	Exco	97	-10	12.3	1.8	19.8
63	50	Exploration	61	..	4.0	6.5	15.5
13½	10	First Charlotte	11½	..	0.1	0.8	..
775	725	Fleetbottom	775	..	13.9	1.8	15.4
94	69	Frost (J) & Co	70	..	4.0	5.7	10.4
104	84	Goode (D A M)	84	+1	1.6	1.9	18.4
750	610	Hambros Admin	680	..	15.7	2.3	14.6
34	24	M & G	25	..	17.9	5.4	19.9
448	355	Marin (RP)	448	..	17.3	4.0	10.7
230	204	Mercantile House	224	..	17.4	4.0	7.5
1.5p	1p	Raleigh Allen	1.5p	..	0.1p	6.7	1.3p
118	98	Scot Brothers	98	..	7.9	8.0	4.7

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

1984/85 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers.			
		3-5 St Pauls Churchyard EC4P 4DX 01-236 1833			
[illegible]	[illegible]	American Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Capital & Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	UK Growth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	General	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Gilt & Fixed Int	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Life Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Worldwide Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Assets & Earn	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	Equitas Prog	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Allied Hambros (Fund Ltd)

INDUSTRY TODAY

Planners give their decision today on oil's future at Wytch Farm

By Jonathan Davis

Today is a crunch day for the offshore oil business in Britain. Councillors on the planning sub-committee of Dorset County Council are meeting to decide whether to give planning permission to BP to drill four appraisal wells on Furzey Island, a privately owned 31-acre estate in the middle of one of the south coast's most popular and beautiful tourist areas, Poole Harbour.

Although it is not the end of the planning and approvals process by any means, today's verdict effectively holds the key to the future of the Wytch Farm oil field, the largest offshore discovery in the country.

If the council gives the go-ahead to the drilling plans, the way will be open for BP and its five smaller oil company partners – Tricentrol, Carless Capel, Clyde Petroleum, Goal Petroleum and Premier Consolidated – to press ahead with their ambitious plans to accelerate development of the Wytch Farm field, which has estimated recoverable reserves of at least 200 millions barrels of oil.

The companies want to step up production from the field from its present level of about 6,000 barrels a day to at least 40,000 a day by the end of the 1980s.

Their plans, submitted last year, involve following up the initial appraisal drilling on Furzey Island with at least 25 additional well on the island, as well as further drilling from existing well sites on the mainland to the south of Poole Harbour.

If the council turns down the Furzey Island application, however, the whole development plan will be back in the melting pot, and could be jeopardized altogether. There are other plans for extracting the maximum amount of recoverable reserves from the two Wytch Farm reservoirs, but BP and its partners admit that they would involve drilling from even more environmentally sensitive sites than Furzey Island.

The Wytch Farm plans have run into strong opposition from environmental groups, including the Nature Conservancy Council, the National Trust and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England.

The opposition has persuaded BP to soft-pedal on its original plan to include an additional drilling site on the Studland peninsula, an area which includes several nature reserves. The official line from BP now is that, while it has not abandoned its plans to drill on Studland, it does not need to make any decision about drilling there for several years.

According to Mr Alan Swindell, the Dorset County planning officer, the Wytch Farm plans have split the local community and the council. "We have got total polarization" he said yesterday. "All the conservation bodies are opposed, and all the commercial interests are in favour."

What the council has to decide today, he said, is where to strike the balance between two matters of national importance – the economic value of the oilfield and the environmental importance of the Poole Harbour area.

The last few months have been devoted to exhaustive studies of the potential environmental impact of the Wytch Farm development plans. The official report from Mr Swindell to the councillors concludes that virtually all the potential environmental dangers are probably either too insignificant or sufficiently containable to be worth risking.

The exception, however, is the danger of a large oil spill, which could do incalculable damage to the Poole Harbour environment. It will be up to the councillors to decide how great the risk of such a spill might be, he says.

What is not in doubt is that today's decision will have a significant impact on the smaller companies in the Wytch Farm consortium. The companies took a calculated gamble in agreeing to buy their combined 50 per cent interest in the field when it was sol, under government orders, by a reluctant British Gas last year. (BP had a 50 per cent interest in the field).

Although the companies have been making confident noises about today's decision, there have been some signs of nerves. "We are all keeping our fingers crossed" Mr John Leonard, chairman of Carless Capel, said yesterday. If the application is rejected, it would be a "terrible disappointment – though not a disaster," according to Mr Malcolm Gourlay, chief executive of Clyde Petroleum.

"Nodding donkeys" production wellheads at Wytch Farm (above) and view of Poole Harbour showing, from top: Brownsea Island, Furzey Island and Green Island.

Few analysts doubt the companies' claims that, if they can get the go-ahead for the build-up of Wytch Farm production, the decision to buy into the field will prove a profitable investment.

Production costs are low compared with North Sea fields, and the geology of the field is sufficiently well documented to make the final reserves figure as near a "dead cert" as you can have in the oil game.

BP and its partners have made no secret privately of their hope that they will eventually be able to achieve production rates considerably higher than 40,000 barrels a day. The five Dorset group companies have the comfort also that they are not required to pay the majority of the Wytch Farm purchase price – £130 million, compared with the initial payment of £85 million – until and unless production tops 20,000 barrels a day. This is not expected to happen until 1988 at the earliest.

The danger from the companies' point of view is that an adverse decision today would come when several of them are thought to be potential takeover targets in the long-awaited phase of rationalization in the secondary oil company sector, which now appears to be under way.

What is agreed on all sides is that the Wytch Farm decision will have potentially far-reaching implications for the future of onshore oil exploration in other parts of the country. "There could be significant knock-on effects" says Clyde's Mr Malcolm Gourlay. "This is an extremely sensitive site environmentally. If we do get approval, it will be held up as a model for all future onshore developments".

A refusal, however, could help tilt the argument between environmentalists and the oil industry decisively in the direction of the environmental groups.

TEMPUS

Burmah: much better and much the same

"Across the electric wire, the message came/Burmah is much better and is much the same" – and that, with apologies to Alfred Austin, is pretty much the story at Burmah in 1984.

In a year of retrenchment, which saw £66 million of asset sales, Burmah also managed to push earnings ahead from £36.5 million to £40.7 million; the usual multimillion pound extraordinary provisions for shipping losses were conspicuous by their absence.

Capital gearing dropped from 39 per cent to 28 per cent, while gross cash zoomed ahead by some £60 million to £130 million. The group's core businesses performed well, with Castrol, the jewel in Burmah's crown, posting a 40 per cent gain in trading profits.

Hence Burmah's payment of an improved final dividend of 7.25p (6.25p) looks justified as an expression of confidence on the future. Old fears that Burmah might not survive the tanker debacle of the seventies now look groundless.

Nevertheless, the group has its problem areas, notably Quinton Hazell – still up for sale, in whole or in part at around £40 million – and the Bahamas terminal, which lost nearly £8 million. Tanker losses were still £5.3 million (£11.6 million).

When Burmah was struggling to survive, the disparity between the group's performing divisions and its laggards was hardly important. Now it is becoming critical, not least because Burmah's continued failure to extricate itself from tricky areas enhances the possibilities of a cheap bid. Shareholders might be forgiven for accepting £3 a share for Burmah, when Castrol alone might be worth £4 a share.

But the failure to swap all the surplus assets for cash also tends to hold the group itself back. Burmah is now moving onto the offensive and plans to push up the capital spend.

The switch is stimulated by the quite rapid rundown at Thistle, which in turn depressed Burmah's oil profits by £6 million to £13.4 million. Oil exploration costs money. In retrospect, Burmah's failure to clinch the Quinton Hazell sale before Christmas may have altered decisively the balance of probabilities in the group's bid to recover and remain independent.

A vendor placing might buy the group some time on the asset sales programme, while helping to finance the spending plans. But perhaps Burmah ought to consider more radical action, like putting Castrol on the market, taking the cash, and starting all over again.

Riley Leisure

As a director and shareholder in Riley Leisure, the millionaire snooker player Mr Steve Davies, who begins the defence of his world championship today, is one of the few people who can afford not to be too concerned about the company's disastrous performance. He will be more concerned about winning his opening match than the £1.2 million loss which Riley reported yesterday.

Not so the chairman, Mr Alan Deal. It is not so much the loss, which reversed the £2.5 million profit made last year and was worse than any observers had expected, which is his main concern. The performance was disappointing, but more pressing is the mounting debts which threaten to hamper any serious attempt to overcome the company's difficulties through improved trading.

Borrowings were up by over £2 million to £12.7 million and are now about three times shareholders' funds. The interest burden of £1.3 million is crippling and serves to starve the company of the cash flow it needs to expand the business. Without a rapid reduction of debts Riley has little chance to make any progress.

The company's problems stem from the ill-starred acquisition of Leisure Industries in 1983. It lost £1.7 million at the operating level, against a £753,000 profit last time.

A partner for Riley could be sought, but it is unlikely to be the concert party lead by Leisure Investments which revealed yesterday that it had built up an 8.17 per cent stake. This announcement propped up the share price, which rose 4p to 55p, but Riley will need a more substantial backer if it is to wriggle out of its present problems.

Gilts

On the surface at least, gilts spent a normal day yesterday, and recovered well from the traumatic apprehensions surrounding the money supply figures for baking March. Longs were ahead by 3/16; shorts were broadly unchanged; index-linked stocks shaded 1/16; and the underlying tone of the market was firm.

The traders went about their business, and the Government Broker was in there with them, supplying tranches of his Exchequer 10½ per cent 1997 taplet. No one was particularly peturbed by the undersubscription to the new low coupon issue, Treasury 3 per cent 1989. Rumours that the Japanese were determined buyers of gilts helped sentiment considerably.

Nevertheless, the authorities are still in an acute policy dilemma, as Mr John Wilmot of Pember & Boyle pointed out quite forcefully. They may have factored the domestic equation quite neatly, by Wednesday's money supply figures which appear calculated to keep rates in general high. But they still have to locate the roots of the foreign exchange polynomial; high interest rates yesterday helped to push sterling ahead strongly, so that it came close to $1.25 against the dollar.

According to Mr Wilmot, the authorities need to trim the monthly bank lending figures back from around £1.8 billion to close on £1.25 billion to stand any chance of coming within the monetary guidelines. But is the interest rate weapon adequate, if sterling moves steadily upwards, and if current monetary trends fail to justify rate cuts on domestic considerations?

Perhaps the authorities might try to engineer a situation, whereby money market rates stay low to discourage hot money inflows, while clearing bank rates stay high to reinforce the constraints on domestic credit expansion?

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Debenhams soars as predator is expected to start bid battle

By Derek Pain and Alison Eadie

A takeover battle is expected to break out soon for the **Debenhams** stores group. Yesterday, in heavy trading, the shares surged 17p to a 224p peak as speculation intensified that one of the four parties thought to be stalking the group would soon break cover and bid.

Habitat Mothercare emerged as the favourite to make the move. It is thought that Mr Rober Thornton, the Debenhams chairman, favours a merger with Habitat rather that a deal with any of the other contenders, Harris Queensway, Heron Corporation and Lonrho.

Heron, the privately-owned group controlled by Mr Gerald Ronson, and Harris are believed to be prepared to make a joint bid. Lonrho's interest stems from the expected end of its involvement in the House of Fraser stores saga.

Sir Terence Conran, Habitat's chairman, looked keenly at Debenhams this year, but at that time a deal did not seem possible. If he now bids, a counter from one of the other contenders is almost certain.

Debenhams has 67 department stores, including Harvey Nichols in London. It also embraces the Hamleys toys business and the Lotus and H M Rayne shoe shops. One of its most successful operations is the Welbeck credit card business.

Habitat, Harris and Lonrho are primarily interested in Debenhams trading divisions. The Heron involvement would be more with the group's extensive property holdings.

A bid of, say, 300p a share, would value Debenhams at £420 million. Profits for the year ended January are expected next month. The market is going for up to £42 million against £33 million last time.

Debenhams was not the only stores group to attract market admirers. **Bentalls**, the Kingston upon Thames department store, jumped 12p to a 101p peak. **J Hepworth**, the men's wear chain embracing the highly successful Next shops, rose 10p to 189p and **W H Smith**, where talk of a consortium bid still lingers, was 6p better at 204p.

Shares generally drifted. There was just a sprinkling of new-time buying. At the close, the FT 30-share index was 2.9 points down at 957.4. The more broadly based *FT SE* share index finished at 1,269.3 points, down 3.8.

The strength of sterling against the dollar, helped by US retail sales figures yesterday, took its toll of export stocks but was kinder to gilts, up by about £¼ as money market rates shaded.

General Electric Co has been placed on the buy list by the brokers Wood Mackenzie after the share's 40p slide since December's interims. Now at 184p, the analyst Mr Robert Miller Bakewell reckons they shiuld recover ot more than 200p, then outperform the sector over the next few months, bringing the other electrical stocks up with them.

He expects electronics profit to grow at 15 per cent a year to the end of the decade and overall group profits to grow by 10 per cent a year. Electronics should constitute half of operating profits by 1990 against a third now. With taxable profits of £825 million forecast in 1985/86 the p/e ratio is just 9.5.

GEC yesterday annunced a management reorganization, including the creation of a UK board of management comprising the heads of the main areas of the company;s activities. The board's task will be to increase coordination across the group to help greater exploiation of total resources with particular reference to growth.

Grattan led a rally among mail-order companies rising 12p to 204p on some strong buying in the market. **Empire Stors** was up 8p at 118p and **Freemans** up 2p at 208p. Grattan has been visiting brokers recently and was meeting clients of Scott Goff Layton this week.

After a long period of unpopularity, mail-order is now seen to be in a strong and sustainable recovery phase, but the shares are still considered to be cheap. Grattan is expected to make taxable profits of £12.5 million this year, giving a p/e ratio of under 9.

Beers were quiet but **Matthew Brown**, the Blackburn brewery, slipped 18p to 418p as market buying by the bidder Scottish and Newcastle Breweries dried up. Scottish had earlier lifted its stake to just below the crucial 15 per cent mark by picking up another 90,000 shares.

It is the first time that Matthew Brown's shares have fallen below the level of the bitterly resisted Scottish bid. At one time, the market was convinced that Scottish would have to offer around 500p a share to win.

Scottish shares slipped 2p to 127½p, pricing Matthew Brown at 438p a share.

Associated Newspapers again drew strength from a favourable circular from Grieveson Grant, the broke. The Daily Mail "twins" were also fim. Octopus Publishing, figures next week, advanced again – 38p to 1,113p.

Oils were helpedy the Burmah Oil figures. Burmah rose 15p to 221p. *Tricentrol* at one time touched 260p, up 5p.

British Telecom had an active day, finishing 1½p down at 138p.

Shaw Carpets was unchanged at 39p. The Harris family has placed 24 per cent of the capital, mainly with institutions, at 37p a share. **Raine Industries** was unchanged at 17p. Suter has increased its shareholding to 7.5 per cent.

Kenning Motor Group, the garage concern, held at 107p as the Kuwait Invesment Office lifted its stake to 24.3 per cent.

Stylo, the shoe shop group, was 178p as British Land improved its shareholding in the limited voting stock to 21.3 per cent.

ICI, whose first-quarter figures are due in two weeks, slipped 12p to 747p largely on the fall of the dollar. Last year, ICI benefitted by about £100 million from exchange gains, mainly the strong dollar, and since then has increased its dollar exposure by buying Beatrice chemicals activities for $750 million.

Hawker Siddely eased 2p to 411p ahead of figures today. **Hanson Trust**, which also has a substantial exposure to the dollar, eased 2p to 204p.

Vickers added another 5p to 269p on hopes of securing extra compensation for nationalization through the EEC.

Higgs & Hill bounced up another 10p to 321p on suggestions that Trafalgar House was building up a stake. **Barratt Developments** is thought to have unloaded a near 5 per cent stake, which has been priced up by Trafalgar as a prelude to a possible bid.

Riley Leisure rose 4p to 55p on the results and news that Leisure Investments has an 8.17 per cent stake.

Evode added 4p more to 123p on Beecham bid speculation. **Pentland Industries** continued to power ahead, adding another 25p to 584p in anticipattion of good results next Monday.

Octapus Publishing gained 38p more to 1013p ahead of results next Tuesday.

Boustead eased 12p to 82p on profit-taking ahead of figures. **Spectrum**, the USM quoted computer distributor, lost another 10p to 40p after its warning of losses, made on Wednesday.

International Thomson Organisation eased 5p to 499p on results.

Petrolex added 2p to 82p on the agreed bid from **Saxon Oil**. Saxon lost 15p to 450p.

Miles 33, the USM-quoted supplier of computer systems, continued to gain ground, adding on another 20p to 303p

The Whitbread brewing group has emerged as a power in the trendy, highly profitable world of discos. It now has 35 (costing £8 million), is looking for more and could be tempted overseas. Three-star country hotels – it has 27 – and country clubs (six) are other areas where the group plans to expand. The shares were unchanged at 186p.

The Edinburgh publishing group, Paul Harris Communications for leisure, is raising £300,000 with an offer of 428,572 shares at 70p each through the licensed dealer, Clarke Farquharson & Partners. The company has recently branched into magazine publishing, through the acquisition of *Scottish Portrait Magazine*, and into video publishing. Founded in 1974, the company has 200 books to its credit ranging from the waterproof *Shower Song Book* to the £950 a copy facsimile reproduction of the 18th century German *Faz Du Rhin*.

Traded option highlights

Although business remained relatively low, the London traded option market enjoyed its busiest day for some weeks yesterday with 7,205p contrasts.

Once again Commercial Union, the insurance group, starred. There were 659 calls and 215 puts. Imperial Group was another active counter. It attracted 576 calls and 81 puts.

There were 584 bargains in the gilts contract.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Adam & Company	13½%
Barclays	13½%
BCCI	13½%
Citibank Savings	†12½%
Consolidated Crds	13½%
Continental Trust	13%
C. Hoare & Co	13½%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13½%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%
Citibank NA	13%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

COMPANY NEWS

UB raises extra cash

Of the 63,981,017 new ordinary shares of 25p each offered by way of rights to the shareholders of United Biscuits (Holdings) over 86 per cent have been taken up.

The ordinary shares not taken up have been sold and the excess over the subscription price (after deducting the expenses of sale) of about 4.727p per ordinary share will be distributed to those provisional allottees whose rights have not been taken up except that no payment will be made of amounts of less than £2.

● **MACFARLANE GROUP (CLANSMAN)**: Proposed one for one scrip issue final 2.475p making 4.315p (3.873p) for 1984. (Figures in £000.) Turnover 41,516 (34,100). Operating profit 3,159 (2,583). Pretax profit 3,011 (2,521) including interest received 17 (14) but after interest charge 166 (75). Tax 1,060 (532).

● **S. JEROME and SONS (HOLDINGS)**: Div 2.13p (1.995p), making 2.824p (2.689p). Turnover for 1984 – figs in £000 – 16,272, (13,258). Profit before tax, 586 (417), comprising: Textile 818 (469), Electronics 47 (95), less interest charges 279 (147). Tax 220 (187). EPS 7.64p (4.67p). The board says that the textile industry is buoyant and new orders for first quarter have been exceptionally good, being a 31 per cent increase on the same period of 1984. For the group as a whole, the board says that, subject to unforeseen circumstances, it is confident that the 1985 results will show an improvement on 1984.

● **CUSSINS PROPERTY GROUP**: Final 3.6p, making 6p (5.5p) for 1984. (Figs. in £000). Turnover 6,751 (6,926). Pretax profit 1,325 (1,504). Tax 294 (507). EPS 18.79p (18.16p). The prospects for excellent growth by the commercial division, coupled with a sound residential programme, give the board the confidence to look forward to a satisfactory year.

● **VALOR**: Trading and prospects remain good with liquidity as high as the last year, despite heavy capital spending taking place, the chairman, Mr Michael Montague, said at the meeting which approved the £6.14 million acquisition of Heatrae Sadia and Heatrae-Sadia Environmental, the water heating and catering equipment companies. He revealed that the group's financial situation has been further strengthened by a £3 million loan from a Japanese bank. The seven-year loan will succeed the group's existing term loan with a British bank.

● **T. F. AND J. H. BRAIME HOLDINGS**: Final 1.5p making, 3p (3.5p). Turnover for 1984 – Figs in £000 – 3,263 (2,928). Trading loss 73 (profit 70). Pre tax profit 27 (170). Tax 35 (91). Loss per share 1.48p (earnings 4.63p).

● **PETRANOL**: Mr H Elliot Jnr, a director, sold 152,170 ordinary shares on March 27. These shares represented part of the total consideration of 456,510 ordinary shares received by Mr Elliot in settlement of the purchase of his reversionary interests approved by shareholders on March 27.

● **BRITANNIA SECURITY GROUP** has completed the acquisition of Flowsail and has issued 31,286 ordinary credit as fully paid and ranking *pari passu* in all respects with the existing issued ordinary shares.

Petrolex welcomes £13.8m Saxon bid

By Michael Prest

The board of Petrolex, the oil company which fiercely contested an £11.7 million bid from Clyde Petroleum, has agreed to a rival £13.8 million offer from Saxon Oil and recommended it to shareholders.

Saxon has offered four new ordinary shares for 21 ordinary Petrolex shares, which values each Petrolex share at 88.6p compared with the 75p cash offered by Clyde.

A cash alternative will come into play if the Saxon offer goes unconditional. J. Henry Schroder Wagg, adviser to Saxon, will offer as principals to buy or find buyers for all the Saxon shares to which Petrolex shareholders may be entitled at 420p each. This values each Petrolex share at 80p.

On Wednesday, Clyde's adviser, Singer & Friedlander, approached the Takeover Panel about a statement issued by Petrolex on Tuesday which said that other appraches had been received.

Clyde was understood yesterday to be considering its position in the light of the Saxon bid.

On the USM, Petrolex rose 2p to 82p, but Saxon fell

SE debut for group

Asda Property Holdings, the residential and commercial property group built up by Mr Manny Davidson, is coming to the stock market in a few weeks' time.

Laing & Cruickshank, the stockbroker, is offering 3.2 million shares at 172p each. Most of the £5.5 million raised will initially go towards reducing Asda's large borrowings of £17.5 million.

The shares are offered at a discount of 23 per cent of stated pro forma net assets of 223p.

At the offer for sale price, the company will have a total market capitalization of £17.7 million.

Burmah

1984 A year of significant progress

- Earnings increased by 12 per cent
- Record results from Castrol
- Dividends increased by 10 per cent
- Disposals realised £60 million
- Gearing significantly reduced

	1984 £ million	1983 £ million
Profit before tax	70.0	64.9
Ongoing businesses	72.8	61.9
Discontinued businesses	(2.8)	3.0
Profit after tax, less minority interests	40.7	36.5
Ongoing businesses	44.0	35.4
Discontinued businesses	(3.3)	1.1
	pence	pence
Earnings per stock unit	27.57	24.65
Net assets per stock unit	271	240
Net gearing	28%	39%

The Burmah Oil Public Limited Company

The directors are recommending a net final dividend of 7.25p per £1 unit of ordinary stock. Together with the interim dividend paid last December, this will increase the total of ordinary dividends in respect of 1984 with related tax credit to 15.357p per £1 unit of ordinary stock. The final dividend, if approved, will be paid on 2 July 1985 to stockholders on the register on 17 May 1985.

To: The Secretary, The Burmah Oil Public Limited Company, Burmah House, Pipers Way, Swindon, Wilts. SN3 1RE.
Please send me a copy of the Annual Report and Accounts 1984.
Name
Address

The figures for the years to 31 December 1983 and 1984 respectively are each abridged from the Group's full accounts for the relevant period. While both sets of accounts are the subject of unqualified auditors' reports, only those for the earlier year have to date been filed with the Registrar of Companies.

The Annual Report and Accounts will be published on 1 May 1985.
The AGM will be held in Glasgow on 24 May 1985.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Your gain or loss
	BUILDING AND ROADS	
1	SGB	
2	Ruberoid	
3	Wimpey (George)	
4	Costain	
5	Blue Circle	
6	Wilson (Connolly)	
7	Vibroplant	
8	Tarmac	
9	Burnett & Hallam	
10	Countryside	
	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
11	Fenner (JH)	
12	English China Clay	
13	Hepworth Ceramic	
14	Fothergill & Harvey	
15	Johnson Cleaners	
16	Hunting Assoc	
17	Evode	
18	Hargreaves	
19	Elliott (B)	
20	Howard Machinery	
	INDUSTRIALS L-R	
21	Marley	
22	Reed Int	
23	Portals	
24	LCP	
25	Martonair	
26	Neill (J)	
27	Ratcliffs (Gd Bridge)	
28	Pauls	
29	Reuter	
30	Pearson	
	DRAPERY AND STORES	
31	Menzies (John)	
32	Br Home Stores	
33	NSS Newsagents	
34	MFI	
35	Freemans	
36	Ward White	
37	Home Charm	
38	Burton	
39	Dixons	
40	Moss Bros	

© Times Newspapers Limited Your Daily Total

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Prices drift lower

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 25. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, April 15. Settlement Day, April 22.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000

Claims required for +38 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1984/85 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
		BUILDING AND ROADS					
		CHEMICALS, PLASTICS					
		CINEMAS AND TV					
		DRAPERY AND STORES					
		ELECTRICALS					
		BREWERIES					
		BANKS DISCOUNT HP					
		FINANCE AND LAND					
		FOODS					
		HOTELS AND CATERERS					
		INDUSTRIALS A-D					
		INDUSTRIALS E-K					
		INDUSTRIALS L-R					
		INDUSTRIALS S-Z					
		INSURANCE					
		LEISURE					
		MINING					
		MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT					
		NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS					
		OIL					
		OVERSEAS TRADERS					
		PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G					
		PROPERTY					
		SHIPPING					
		SHOES AND LEATHER					
		TEXTILES					
		TOBACCOS					

Investment trusts, page 18

Financial trusts, page 18

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend: no price. c Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Ex company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast unchanged. p Capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share issue. Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. ... No significant data.

هكذا من الأصل

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

The best unknown travel firm?

By Derek Harris

Among the top half dozen retail travel agency chains in Britain, the least-known is A. T. Mays. It is still family-run, with its headquarters where the first agency shop was opened in Saltcoats on Scotland's west coast near Ardrossan.

Saltcoats is the place which has attracted from Billy Connolly, the comedian, something like the sort of derision that W. C. Fields lavished on Philadelphia.

That does not ruffle Jim Moffat, chairman and managing director of A. T. Mays. He plans to keep his headquarters there, in a building he worked in years ago when it was a bank, despite a quadrupling in the size of Mays since 1983 and the likelihood of an eventual flotation with a full quote on the London Stock Exchange.

He said: "It costs pennies there compared with the bill if we moved in, or around London. There is good staff to be had and at reasonable rates of pay." There are about 100 staff at Saltcoats and another 1,250 are employed in Mays's 191 outlets.

With the computerized systems now available to travel agents, geographical location is unimportant from an operational point of view, Mr Moffat said.

Mr Moffat, on his own admission a diffident man, admits that the route now being taken means the company will need a stronger public image. Mr Moffat, who knows Sir Freddie Laker well, says: "I am the complete antithesis of Sir Freddie when it comes to presenting a public face to the media. We might have to headhunt somebody to look after that."

Turnover £150 million: Margaret, Jim and Jamie Moffat

Mr Moffat's son Jamie is retail director of A. T. Mays; wife Margaret is a working director. She looked after the company accounts until Coopers & Lybrand, the accountants and consultants, suggested a different management structure.

The family home is what Mr Moffat describes as a modest three-bedroomed house in a village near Saltcoats. He has no aspirations for a Rolls-Royce. He runs a Vauxhall Cavalier and an "old" Daimler. "I'd rather do some more work at the company on a Saturday morning than go to the golf club," he said.

Yet a Rolls would not be completely out of reach. A. T. Mays's turnover was £150 million in the last full year, with a pre-tax profit of rather less than £1 million. That reflects toughening competition in the tourism business. A few years ago May recorded a profit of £1.2 million.

There are A. T. Mays outlets in some cities, including Glasgow, Edinburgh and Leeds, but the Moffat strategy has been to open up in moderate-size towns. It is one reason that its steady growth, lately through acquisitions, has largely gone unnoticed. But with the better-known national chains such as Thomas Cook hungry for expansion, Mr Moffat is finding they are increasingly opening outlets in the small towns also.

Mays has been fighting back by offering a full leisure service, including theatre as well as air tickets and traveller cheques. Mays now has eight business travel centres and plans more.

The chain aims at offering dependability and reliability and consequently spends more than most among the competition on staff training, according to Mr Moffat.

BRIEFING

■ Few business people, particularly those in small companies, know how to use a solicitor and especially to get value for money when doing so, according to the Confederation for British Industry (CBI). To fill this gap the CBI has produced a practical guide* on how to manage legal costs, setting out some golden rules. Choosing a solicitor who can handle a particular company's work satisfactorily and with whom those in the business can get on is one rule. Another is to have a clear agreement on payment for services with an agreed cut-off point so as to control costs. And if it is something that either the business head or his secretary can cope with then it should be a DIY job and not merely passed on to the solicitor, the guide suggests.

*Managing Legal Costs; CBI Publication Sales, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU; £5.

■ Next Tuesday the winner of the Women Mean Business award will be chosen from six finalists. The six include a newspaper publisher, a fibre-optics expert, an animal scanning specialist, a nurse turned medical garment manufacturer, a printer and knitting designer.

Elissa Sutherland started her business carrying out ultra-sound scanning on pregnant sheep in 1983 in Aberdeenshire and is now pioneering animal contract scanning in Britain. Marie Boullemier started her own business in 1975 and now publishes seven newspapers, and four magazines as well as running a van-hire company.

The award is sponsored by the magazine *Options* and the insurance company Imperial Life.

Backing for the franchisors

By Peter Wilson-Smith

A new fund to provide finance and expertise for franchisors has been launched by Granville & Co, the corporate-finance group which also runs an over-the-counter market in company shares.

Franchise Investors Ltd (FIL), with initial capital of £1.25 million, is the first of its kind in this country. There is a ready source of funding for franchisees in this country from the big clearing banks, but companies wanting to expand by franchising have found finance harder to obtain. The British Franchise Association has been looking at ways of encouraging a greater flow of finance from the City.

FIL aims to plug this gap and its backers believe franchising in Britain is about to expand rapidly. Compared with the US, where franchising of all kinds accounts for about a third of retail sales the industry here is in its infancy. But some estimates predict a fivefold rise in annual turnover over the next five years from the present £1 billion.

FIL's backers include Causeway Development Capital, PostTel Investment Management and Legal & General, which together own about 75 per cent of the equity. The rest is held by Granville & Co and the founders.

FIL will concentrate on business-format franchising such as employed by Dyno-Rod, Wimpy and Budget Rent-a-car, which allows companies to expand quickly without the need for large amounts of capital or management resources.

It plans to identify and take equity stakes in companies whose business is suitable for franchising. It also intends to buy master licenses, probably from North American companies, and develop franchise networks in this country. FIL has also acquired a franchising-consultancy company, Caltain Associates.

"Oh God! The worst job of the year: tidying up this lot for my accountant"

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also on page 26

RUGBY UNION

Salmon changes colours as he returns to NZ

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

England showed most, but not all, of their hand yesterday when they named 23 of the 26 players who will tour New Zealand in May and June. They confirmed their choice of Dodge as captain and, intriguingly, included Andrew as one of the stand-off halves, even though the player himself believes he is unlikely to be available.

Andrew, in his final year of a land economy course at Cambridge University, said: "As far as I knew I was out but my tutor has told me he will have one last go to put off my final exams. But he rates it 90 per cent certain I will have to stay in England." The situation should be resolved by the weekend. The choice of the remaining three players will, in certain areas, be dependent upon the replacement for Andrew, should one be necessary.

The party so far includes three players uncapped by England: Goodwin, the Moseley wing; Simpson, the Sale hooker; and Salmon, the Harlequins centre, who was, however, capped three times by New Zealand on their tour of Romania and France in 1981. Salmon, aged 25, spent four years in New Zealand, playing for Wellington, and is able to return as an England player after last year's International Board ruling which permits players who have represented southern hemisphere countries to play for a home country if eligible.

Salmon, born in England and now a master at Wellington College, has always retained a British passport: "I jumped at the chance of playing for New Zealand", he said yesterday, "but I do not want to be regarded as an opportunist. I have put the New Zealand phase of my life firmly behind me now."

The selectors have tried to maintain the stability obvious in this season's championship sides in sticking with Dodge as captain and resisting the temptation to take a player such as Colclough, the Wasps lock. They have, therefore, a party short on international experience but long on enthusiasm; apart from Salmon, only two of the party, Melville and Bainbridge in 1983, have visited New Zealand.

Bainbridge, after a season in the wilderness because of a sending-off in September, is recalled, as is Barley, but the remaining three places are unlikely to be settled until after the game with Wales. The selectors will be looking for two additional backs, capable of playing full back, wing or centre, and another tight forward who will probably be a loose-head prop.

Hesford is the only No 8 named but Teague, specifically chosen as a flanker, can provide cover there. Davies (Wasps) must remain in the frame, most likely as a stand-off in the event of Andrew's withdrawal, which leaves players like Boyd (West Hartlepool) and Halliday (Bath) with something to play for in the B side against Italy next Wednesday.

Simpson: place in party

The other utility backs who come to mind are Woodward, on England's bench this season until an ankle injury put him out, Cardus (Wasps) and Knibbs, the Bristol centre who played a useful game on the wing in the under-23 trial at Walsall on Wednesday.

TOUR PARTY: Full back: C R Martin (Bath). Wings: S T Smith (Wasps), J Goodwin (Moseley). Centres: P W Dodge (Leicester, captain), J W B Salmon (Harlequins), B W Barley (Wakefield). Stand-off halves: N D Melville (Wasps), R J Hill (Bath). Props: P J Blakeway (Gloucester), G S Pearce (Northampton), A Sheppard (Bristol). Hookers: S E Brain (Coventry), A W Simpson (Sale). Locks: J Orwin (Gloucester), W A Dooley (Preston Grasshoppers), S J Bainbridge (Fylde). Flankers: J P Hall (Bath), D H Cooke (Harlequins), M C Teague (Gloucester), G W Rees (Nottingham). No 8: R Hesford (Bristol). Two backs and a forward still to be named. Manager: W D G Morgan. Coaches: M J Green and W B Ashton. Physiotherapist: A Bell.

ITINERARY: May 18: v North Auckland (Whangarei). May 22: v Poverty Bay (Gisborne). May 25: v Auckland. May 28: v Otago (Dunedin). June 1: v New Zealand (Christchurch). June 4: v Southland (Invercargill). June 8: v New Zealand (Wellington).

England keep faith in unchanged side

By David Hands

Showing all the consistency which has hallmarked their decisions in 1985 – if not during the previous year – the England selectors have named the side which took the field on March 30 against Ireland to play Wales at Cardiff in the final five nations championship match of the season on April 20. Wales, however, leave a vacancy at stand-off half which will do nothing to improve the confidence of the side overall.

The Welsh have been forced by the injury of Moriarty to name a newcomer at No 8, where Philip Davies of Llanelli is awarded his first cap. But the selectors will watch tomorrow's game between Cardiff and Swansea, and that between Neath and Gloucester, before deciding who will link up with Holmes, the Welsh captain.

In the first club game Gareth Davies, the present incumbent at stand-off, plays against Dacey, his immediate predecessor, whose form for Swansea in recent weeks has been in marked contrast to his hesitant start to the season. In the second game, the player under scrutiny will be Jonathan Davies, the Neath and Wales B stand-off.

As if they have not had enough problems, the Welsh selectors also heard on Wednesday evening that Norster, the lock, was injured during the game between Cardiff and South Wales Police. Norster, who suffered a long injury absence midway through the season, sustained a pinched nerve in the neck but hopes to be fit.

In the same game, Morris, the Police flanker, came off with a hip injury but he has been omitted from the Welsh squad altogether, his place going to Roberts (Cardiff), who won his first cap in Paris as a replacement for Moriarty last month. So Wales are still seeking the right blend at back row; the 6ft 3in Davies may be part of the answer but in their choice of Roberts they have gone for a player more accustomed to the open-side.

Wales have also named a strong B side for the game against Spain at Bridgend on April 19. It includes two full internationals, Mark Davies, the Swansea flanker and captain, and Douglas, the London Welsh scrum half.

WALES: P Thorburn (Neath); P I Lewis (Llanelli), H A Ackerman (London Welsh), M G Ring (Cardiff), A M Hadley (Cardiff); A N Other, T D Holmes (Cardiff, captain); J Whitefoot (Cardiff), W J James (Aberavon), S Evans (Swansea), G Roberts (Cardiff), S J Perkins (Pontypool), R L Norster (Cardiff), D I Pickering (Llanelli), P Davies (Llanelli). Replacements: M A Wyatt (Swansea), A N Other, D J Bishop (Pontypool), I Stephens (Bridgend), M D Richards (Neath), M Brown (Pontypool).

ENGLAND: C R Martin (Bath); S T Smith (Wasps), K G Simms (Cambridge University), P W Dodge (Leicester, captain), R Underwood (Leicester); C R Andrew (Nottingham), N D Melville (Wasps); P J Blakeway (Gloucester), S E Brain (Coventry), G S Pearce (Nottingham), J P Hall (Bath), J Orwin (Gloucester), W A Dooley (Preston Grasshoppers), D H Cooke (Harlequins), R Hesford (Bristol). Replacements: G H Davies (Wasps), S Barnes (Bristol), R J Hill (Bath), A Sheppard (Bristol), A W Simpson (Sale), M C Teague (Gloucester).
Referee: F Palmade (France).

WALES B (v Spain, Bridgend, April 19): M Graville (Llanelli), I Evans (Llanelli), L Jones (Pontypool), K Hopkins (Swansea), A Emyr (Swansea), G John (South Glamorgan Institute), M Douglas (London Welsh); T Jones (London Welsh), S Davies (South Wales Police), P Francis (Maesteg), P Moriarty (Swansea), K Moseley (Pontypool), D Waters (Newport), M Davies (Swansea captain), A Hopkins (Neath). Replacements: P Rees (Cardiff), P Turner (Newbridge), J Griffiths (Llanelli), A Buchanan (Llanelli), P Ransome (Newbridge), J Williams (Swansea).
Referee: J B Anderson (Scotland).

Board's speed reflects enthusiasm of players

By Gerald Davies

The idea of a World Cup in 1987 was a bold step for an International Board not exactly noted for its boldness.

The existence of such a tournament will extend the role of the board and, with the five nations championship not formally recognized, for the first time a fully-fledged competition comes under its control, constituting the most revolutionary step it has taken since it undertook the responsibility to frame and interpret the laws of the game.

The quickness and decisiveness of the pronouncement, with no sub-committee this time having to report back on the Australasian proposal, was satisfyingly out of character, and their prompt action inspires the belief that the board was wholeheartedly in favour of a World Cup. They seem to have had their ears close to the ground and must have known that the players themselves nowadays want such a competition.

But if they are to be congratulated on the boldness of this enterprise, the greatest challenge and responsibility lies ahead. Once having taken the decision, they must so arrange the competition as to ensure not only its success but that the ideals they conceive of the game, without being fussy, should remain intact. To say that the necessary consequence of such a competition is to lead up what many consider the primrose path to professionalism is no reason why an attempt should not be made at trying to set up such a competition.

There are very many reasons why the game should remain amateur, the strongest being that, by and large, the players themselves want rugby to remain much as it is – although many of the regulations pertaining to amateurism, fossilized in 12 pages, need radical pruning if they are to remain credible during the last few years of this century. As Alan Jones, the Australian coach, emphasized recently, the players simply want to be made to feel special and that if recent autobiographies are anything to go by, has not always been the case in the past. This was said at the Hong Kong Sevens, where it would appear the players certainly were made to feel special.

While sevens is not the same thing at all as the 15-a-side game, it might be that the organizers of the World Cup could learn from Hong Kong's happy and festive occasion. It might be worth considering that a plate competition be arranged for those removed early from the main cup competition, for example. In that way each country may feel they have a contribution to make as participants throughout.

Schools rugby, page 24

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GOLF

Ballesteros has the inventive art to delight his gallery

From Mitchell Platts, Augusta

The phenomenal Severiano Ballesteros provided another remarkable demonstration of his recovery powers when the 49th US Masters began in brilliant sunshine here yesterday.

On the outward half the Spaniard hit only two fairways and he also missed the green at one of the two par threes. Yet he rescued his score with a combination of shots threaded through and around the trees and, of course, with the assistance of his wedge and trusty putter. He had 13 putts, including two from off the greens, in an outward half of 36.

Ballesteros gave those who were fortunate enough to be watching the action full value for the $75 (about £60) they part with to secure a Masters series ticket. There is a kind of ghoulish element, not unlike that which attends motor racing, which commands their heroes to step to the brink of disaster without actually toppling over. In golf they encourage Ballesteros to follow the most adventurous of paths so as to be treated to the kind of escape shots which are his trademark. He did not let them down.

Ballesteros flashed his opening drive right on the fairway and into the trees. His recovery, through a gap in the branches, caught the front bunker and from there he came out to eight feet and two-putted. It was, in spite of all the problems that were to come his way for the next two hours, the only hole on the front nine at which he dropped a shot.

The long second is reachable in two mighty blows. But Ballesteros's second effort curved right and the ball came to rest more than 30 yards away from the green. It left him facing a tricky pitch, with the pin not far onto the green, and he left it just short. When he came to play his fourth shot his concentration was twice broken by the movement of a woman in the crowd. But he remained calm and he got up and down to salvage his par.

Ballesteros, with his brother Manuel as caddy, made a par at the third without playing a shot on the green. He was bunkered off the tee. Then he left his escape shot short of the green and then failed to pitch onto the putting surface. He ended the agony by holing from off the green with his putter.

Ballesteros was again playing the role of the Augusta Houdini, dressed in his familiar first-day garb of maroon trousers, powder-blue sweater and a white, peaked hat which concealed his emotions.

He must have grimaced at the choice of club at the fourth – the first of the four par threes – because he came up short with the ball finishing in the bunker. But he splashed out to five feet and he made his three. He finally struck two excellent shots at the fifth for which he was rewarded when he holed from 12 feet for a birdie. He also found the green at the short sixth but he missed a chance from 15ft.

Then it was back to the unconventional business of gathering pars from unlikely positions. He took a one iron, supposedly for safety, at the seventh but pulled the ball left and into the trees. His solution was to run the ball into a greenside bunker and try to get up and down from there. He achieved his aim with an exquisite bunker shot and a solid four-foot putt.

Ballesteros pushed his drive at the long eighth right of the fairway so that he was blocked out by the overhanging branches of a huge tree 20 yards ahead of him. A beautifully shaped three wood took care of that problem and he made his par at the hole and another at the ninth, where he two-putted from just off the green.

Ballesteros kept rolling, with the help of birdies at the 12th and 15th, although Sam Randolph, aged 20, who reached the semi-final of the 1984 US Amateur, surprisingly compiled the lowest score among the early starters with a 70.

● TAIPEI (Reuter) – A veteran local golfer, Ho Ming-Chung, had a four-under 68 to take the first-round lead in the Taiwan Open yesterday.

Ho, winner three years ago, started with two bogeys in the first two holes but picked up three birdies on the front green. He added three more birdies on the back nine over the par-72 6,825-yard Hsinchu Country Club, south of Taipei.

Vision of success: Ballesteros at Augusta

Sandwich raw deal

By Nicholas Keith

The 54th Halford Hewitt tournament opened in particularly gruesome weather yesterday, with slanting rain and gusts of wind up to 35 mph recorded at Royal St George's Sandwich. Nor was there any relief at the Royal Cinque Port, Deal, where the inevitable delays slowed play to such an extent that the last match of the day between Liverpool and Stowe had to be postponed until this morning.

In the conditions it was a struggle for survival and none sailed closer to the powerful wind than Rugby, who came from behind to beat Cranleigh. The top match found two former Walker Cup players in opposition, John Davies, for Cranleigh, and Michael Attenborough, for Rugby; Davies and his partner, Brazell, got home on the 17th green. With Cranleigh winning the third match and Rugby the bottom two, everything hung on the second pairs.

They came down the 18th all square but Rugby were on the green in three and Cranleigh about 50ft away from the hole in four. However, Robin Elsdon-Dew holed his putt: the hole was halved and they set off down the 19th, where Bruce Webster won the match for Rugby with a five-foot putt for a par four.

Another close match, as expected, involved Merchiston and Malvern, last year's runners-up. Everything hinged on the third match, where the short 16th was halved in two and, Malvern went one ahead with a four at the 17th. A fluffed pitch by Malvern's Robert Beeson to the 18th looked to have put the Scots back in the match but he redeemed himself by holing a long putt for victory.

FIRST ROUND: Dwell Marlborough bt Tauton 4½–½: Clifton bt Ampleforth 5–0; Tonbridge bt Trent 4–1; St Bees bt Chigwell 3½–1½; King's, Canterbury bt King Edwards, Birmingham 3½–1½; Haileybury bt Winchester 3–2; Wellingborough bt Bedford 4–1; Reskin bt Felstead 5–0; Dulwich bt St Paul's 5–0; Hurstpierpoint bt Aldenham 3–2. Sandwich: Harrow bt Framlingham 5–0; Cheltenham bt Mill Hill 4–1; Wellington bt Oundle 4–1; Repton bt Rossall 4–1; Berkhamsted bt Eastbourne 3½–1½; Blundell's bt Epsom 3–2; Wrekin bt Brighton 4–1; Rugby bt Cranleigh 3–2; Storyhurst bt Merchant Taylors' 3–2; Malvern bt Marcheton 3–2. Downside bt City of London 5–0; Lancing bt Uppingham 4–1.

CRICKET

Greenidge makes up for earlier failure

Georgetown, Guyana (Reuter) – West Indies' opening batsman Gordon Greenidge hit an unbeaten half century by lunch as the second Test against New Zealand laboured towards a draw on the fifth and final day. Greenidge was on 59 at the interval as West Indies reached 121 for two, an overall lead of 192.

West Indies, resuming at 41 for one, lost their nightwatchman Clyde Butts for nine to Richard Hadlees. Greenidge was joined by Richie Richardson and neither appeared in any hurry to force the scoring rate. Greenidge, the only West Indian to fail in the first innings, reached his 50 in 126 minutes with seven fours.

Hadlee, who bowled with some life in a five-over spell in the morning, had taken both wickets to fall.

New Zealand had avoided the follow-on, largely thanks to Martin Crowe, who scored 188, his highest Test score and the sixth-highest innings for New Zealand in Tests, in 565 minutes with a six and 22 fours. Marshall, striving for pace on the placid pitch, bowled 18 no-balls and six wides in his 33 overs.

WEST INDIES: First innings
511 for 6 dec (R B Richardson 185, D L Haynes 90, P J Dujon 80 not out, H A Gomes 58, A L logie 52)

Second innings

C G Greenidge not out	69
D L Haynes c Smith b Hadlee	8
C G Butts c Smith b Hadlee	9
R B Richardson not out	33
Extras (b 4, l-b 6, n-b 1)	11
Total (2 wkts, lunch)	121

H A Gomes,* I V A Richards, A L logie, P J Dujon, M D Marshall, M A Holding and J Garner to bat. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-48.

BOWLING (to date): Hadlee, 12-1-25-2; Chatfield, 12-2-31-0; Boock, 5-2-19-0; Cairns, 10-1-34-0; Coney, 2-1-2-0.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

J G Wright run out	27
K R Rutherford c Dujon b Garner	4
J J Crowe b Marshall	22
M D Crowe l-b-w b Garner	188
*G P Howarth c Haynes b Marshall	4
J V Coney c Richards b Holding	73
R J Hadlee c Dujon b Marshall	16
†I D S Smith l-b-w b Marshall	83
B L Cairns b Holding	3
S L Boock b Holding	0
E J Chatfield not out	3
Extras (b 2, l-b 12, w 8, n-b 27)	47
Total ()	440

FALL OF WICKETS: 1–8, 2–48, 3–81, 4–98, 5–240, 6–251, 7–404, 8–415, 9–415, 10–440.

BOWLING: Marshall, 33-3-110-4; Garner, 27.5-5-72-2; Holding, 28-6-88-3; Butts 47-12-113-0; Richards 8-1-22-0; Gomes 8-2-20-0.

Umpires: L Barkerand D Narine.

IN BRIEF

Baddeley's rivals fall away

Steve Baddeley, England's leading badminton player, should have the easiest of tasks in regaining the men's singles title in the English National Championships which start at Coventry today.

Nick Yates, joint No. 1 with Baddeley in the English rankings, has decided to miss the event in order to concentrate on preparing for the world championships in June, and Steve Butler, who had been seeded No 2, has pulled out with influenza. Because of a mix-up in his entry, Dipak Tailor, the third seed, is also missing.

BOWLS: David Bryant, the winner of the CIS Insurance international singles event at Wymondham Dell for the last three years, reached the final with a two set win over Bob Sutherland, Scotland's 1983 world champion, yesterday. In the final he meets the world champion, Terry Sullivan, who beat Jim Baker of Belfast.

YACHTING: The veteran yachtsman Syd Fischer announced multi-million-dollar plans yesterday for a fourth Australian syndicate to challenge for the right to defend the America's Cup. An eastern Australian joint venture involving New South Wales, Victoria and probably Queensland is to build a 12-metre yacht to contest the Cup, to be held off Fremantle in 1987, Fischer said.

SPORTS GROUNDS: The Central Council of Physical Recreation claimed yesterday that over 280 prime sports fields owned by Health Authorities are in danager following Government instructions that administrative bodies "maximise their assets" in order to fund existing medical facilities. The CCPR has received complaints from sports clubs about to be evicted from hospital-owned grounds which are being sold for redevelopment.

FOOTBALL: All professional matches in Argentina planned or this weekend have been banned to give a special committee time to study ways of eliminating violence between rival fans. In the latest outreak of trouble, last Sunday, a 14-year-old boy was shot dead, 20 people were injured and over 500 were detained.

FOOTBALL

Liverpool have a score or two to settle at home and abroad

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The bookmakers were as accurate as usual. Liverpool and Juventus, who in January challenged each other for the Continent's least notable trophy, the Super Cup, will almost certainly bring the season to a close on May 29 in Brussels by contesting the most notable trophy, the European Cup.

The prospect of the champions of England and Italy throwing away the substantial advantages they earned for themselves during the first legs of their semi-finals on Wednesday night lies beyond the imagination. Liverpool will take a four-goal lead into the Olympic Stadium in Athens in a fortnight while Juventus will be defending a three-goal lead in Bordeaux.

Juventus, whose ample cushion was provided by Briaschi and more predictably by Boniek and Platini, collected the Super Cup after a 2-0 victory in Turin. As well as seking revenge over Manchester United in the FA Cup semi-final tomorrow, Liverpool will be eager to settle another score when the two glamorous and talented teams renew acquaintances in Brussels.

Panathinaikos must rewrite history if they are to go through. Liverpool have never before lost by five clear goals to foreign opposition. They have conceded five – to Ajax in the European Cup – but they scored one themselves, through Lawler, and that defeat was inflicted 19 years ago when they were beginning to find their way across the Continent.

Bayern Munich, in 1971, and *Dynamo Tbilisi, in 1979*, are the only other European side to have since beaten Liverpool's goalkeeper more than twice in an evening. Although Panathinaikos have a dangerous winger in Saravakos, there was nothing to suggest in their inhibited display at Anfield that they can retain any realistic hope of upsetting odds that are overwhelming.

Their emblem happens to be a green shamrock but their luck, which has partnered them during their controversial progress, seems to have come to and end. After being awarded at least one penalty in each of their previous ties, including their remarkable recovery in the second round against the Northern Irish representatives from Linfield, they were denied one on Wednesday when Beglin clearly pushed Saravakos. Their manager also felt that another offence, by Lawrenson, should have been noted.

As a bitterly angry Jacek Gmoch surveyed his Greek ruins, he promised revenge. "It will be the game of a lifetime in two weeks", he said. "I'm very upset. Without that referee we will see who plays the better football."

Wark, Rush (twice) and Beglin were responsible for building a margin of victory that might justifiably have been wider, even though Panathinaikos struck the woodwork and had an early goal disallowed.

Strangely enough, they lost 4-1 away to Red Star Belgrade in the first leg of the semi-final in 1971 and still survived. Their victims in the previous round that year were Everon, who are favoured to meet either Rapid Vienna, the controversial conquerors of Celtic, or less probably Dynamo Moscow, who are 3-1 down, in the Cup-Winners' Cup Final.

Videoton, who knocked out Manchester United, took a similar lead over Zeljeznicar in the UEFA Cup but they are known to be relatively fragile outside their Hungarian homeland. Inter Milan, who are more solidly dependable and were given a healthy start by a Brady penalty, should hold on to their 2-0 advantage when they visit Real Madrid, who were unconvincing winners over Tottenham Hotspur in the quarter-final.

The man in need of a funfair not a prison

By David Miller

It is sentimentally appropriate that Luton Town, 100 years old yesterday, should be the south's lone challenge to the big three of the North West in tomorrow's FA Cup semi-finals: ironic that their chance of a second appearance at Wembley should come at a time when they are being condemned by the authorities for inefficient housekeeping.

David Pleat, like Graham Taylor down the road at Watford, is one of those relatively unsung managers whose wisdom and diligence maintains the standard and backbone of the game while more famous men are busy taking the praise. At a Football Writers' Association luncheon yesterday Pleat was wondering whether it was right that England should be turning its grounds into prisons rather than funfairs, with all the fencing necessary to contain the minority hooligan element.

It is an emotional argument with which there is much sympathy. Realistically, the hooligans have to be beaten, but in the process innocent people are affected. "With the erection of fences now demanded, many people at Luton will not be able to see the ball go in the net" Pleat reflected. Football grounds such as Kenilworth Road are being punished for their age, for having grown in a bygone era, out of the roots of the people who nourish them. They are faced with a dilemma which Prime Ministers are unlikely to appreciate.

For the moment, Luton's thoughts are only for tomorrow: for ending Everton's sequence of 20 games without defeat, and then for ensuring their own survival in the first division. Pleat does not hide from the fact that the outcome of the firstmay well influence the second.

"You can't tell what will be the effect of losing a semi-final," he said. "I have the impression that losing to Norwich at Wembley will affect Sunderland. If I was selfish, I would prefer that we should win the FA Cup on our centenary, but responsibility demands that staying in the first division should be our only choice.

Pleat: an unsung manager

Pleat paid tribute to Everton's chairman for having stood by his manager at a time last season when things were bad, and he made the point, as chairman elect of the Secretaries and Managers Association, that the game needed a greater return from the prominent managers such as Clough, Charlton and McMenemy, to support the Association.

"It's not good enouth just to give the odd TV interviews" Pleat said. "But it's hard to get men of responsibility and standing on our committee. When a manager is dismissed in doubtful circumstances, there will always be, unfortunately, a queue of people waiting to take over. But I doubt if the morality of soccer is more dubious than any other business or than politics.

The stars' star that is Gray

By Clive White

If Peter Reid is the players' player, Andy Gray is the stars' star. Having inspired the Everton players merely by his presence and reputation last season, when he was for the large part injured and, frankly, not needed, Gray is now leading them on to even greater glories by his own heroic brand of deed.

This week, though, it was back to encouragement by words and presence only, Gray having aggravated an injury, not to mention Sunderland, during last Saturday's game in which he scored the sort of goal we all score – in our fantasies – and minutes later had the audacity to as good as do it again.

He never really was considered too seriously for the match against Bayern Munich in Everton's Cup Winners' Cup semi-final on Wednesday, as Howard Kendall, the manager, indicated when the party left for Munich: "I'd rather have him for the second leg," he said. He could have played, but not in tomorrow's FA Cup semi-final against Luton Town as well. A troublesome knee would not have put up with it.

Instead he watched as mature a performance as this Everton side have shown while in retreat, knowing, perhaps, that had he been playing he might have nudged in a winner from one of the few chances that came Everton's way. It has to be stated that Bayern were sad descendants of the team of the mid-Seventies but perhaps there was also some truth in the adage about only being as good as the opposition allow.

The players are quite content to wait for Gray's match-winner in a fortnight's time. The general feeling among them afterwards seemed to be: "We'll have Andy back at Goodison and they won't fancy that." Gray scored all three goals in the previous round at home.

Gray is one notable example of how Kendall's judgement has come good – very good. The Everton board could have been excused for having misgivings about the decision to let Kendall have £250,000 to buy a player as brittle as bone china. It is with obvious justification that he now points to the presence of this with the Desperate Dan jaw that suggests he shaves with a blow-torch as being instrumental in the astounding success story of the Eighties.

Isthmians trade in their identity for £250,000

Non-League football by Paul Newman

The Isthmian League, which became the first commercially sponsored league in England 12 years ago, signed one of the most lucrative sponsorshop agreements in the history of non-League football yesterday.

Over the next three seasons General Motors, who already sponsor the Football Association's school of excellence at Lilleshall and Luton town FC, are to put £250,000 into the league, which will be known as the Vauxhall-Opel League. For the first time in the competition's 80-year history, the name Isthmian League will be dropped. The league's current sponsorship agreements with Servowarm and Hitachi run out at the end of the season.

The new agreement is similar in size and scope to the current Gola League sponsorship. It includes awards for teams finishing in the top six positions of all four divisions, goalscoring incentives and rewards for progress in FA competitions.

Drybroughs, the Scottish brewers, yesterday announced an extension to their sponsorship of the Northern League. They will be putting £150,000 into the league over the next three years.

● Altrincham, who have led the Gola League for much of the season, appear to have squandered their chance of the title after dropping 18 points over the last 11 games. They still head the table, but with only six games remaining their fate is firmly in the hands of other teams.

GOLA LEAGUE LEADERS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Altrincham	38	11	8	6	11	53	56
Wealdstone	38	7	10	7	9	58	52
Kidderminster	37	8	9	6	14	72	51
Dartford	37	6	8	13	10	49	49
Scarborough	36	9	6	11	12	53	49
Bath	32	12	5	7	8	44	47
Nuneaton	36	11	3	13	8	59	46
Northwich	38	8	6	10	14	44	44
Kettering	36	8	6	9	13	58	42
Frickley	35	10	5	5	14	55	45
Enfield	33	9	5	9	10	39	42
Telford	35	10	4	10	11	38	42

REMAINING FIXTURES

ALTRINCHAM: Home: Telford, Dartford, Boston, Barnet. Away: Frickley, Maidstone.
BATH: Home: Yeovil, Northwich, Enfield, Runcorn, Weymouth. Away: Frickley, Scarborough, Gateshead, Boston, Enfield.
DARTFORD: Home: Dagenham, Gateshead. Away: Dagenham, Altrincham, Telford.
ENFIELD: Home: Yeovil, Bath, Kidderminster, Telford. Away: Yeovil, Bath, Boston, Runcorn, Wealdstone.
KIDDERMINSTER: Home: Kettering, Wealdstone. Away: Gateshead, Kettering, Enfield.
WEALDSTONE: Home: Northwich, Enfield, Kettering, Dagenham, Frickley. Away: Nuneaton, Barnet, Kidderminster, Kettering.

Macari appoints Trollope

Lou Macari, reinstated as manager of Swindon Town on Wednesday, yesterday appointed John Trollope as his assistant manager. Trollope, aged 41, was sacked as manager of Swindon in 1983 and now replaces Harry Gregg, who was dismissed as assistant manager along with Macari on Good Friday. Gregg was not reinstated.

● Tommy Booth, the Preston North End manager, has persuaded his former Manchester City teammate Brian Kidd to become his assistant at Deepdale. The ex-England striker has been managing Barrow, of the Gola League.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

SKEGNESS: English Schools Festival: Cheshire 4, Dorset 2; Cumbria A 2, Avon A 1; Nottingham 1, Northumberland 6; Durham 2, West Midlands A 0; Essex A 2, Somerset 2; Hertfordshire A 1, Hereford and Worcs 1; Lancashire 3, Inner London 0; Leicestershire 3, Merseyside A 4; Staffordshire 1, West Yorkshire 1; Sussex 3, Cornwall 2; Kent B 4, Warwickshire B 0; Middlesex B 4, Hampshire B 2

Lincolnshire 1, Suffolk 2; North Yorkshire 2, Bedfordshire 3, San Diego 2, Greater Manchester A 0, Nottinghamshire 1, Devon 1; Public Schools 5, Kent A 3; Shropshire A 0, Surrey 4, South Yorkshire 1, Hampshire A 2; Avon B 2, Derbyshire B 1; Cumbria B 1, Essex B 7, Inner London B 1, Shropshire B 3; Festival XI 0, Humberside 1; England Schools under-18 XI 4, FA Representative XI 3

Wednesday's late results: Avon A 1, Staffordshire 2; Cornwall 3, Cheshire 1, Dorset 3, Leicestershire 2; Durham 0, Lancashire 0; Hereford and Worcestershire 3, Sussex 1; Herefordshire A 0, W Yorkshire 4; Inner London A 2, Derby A 2; Northumberland 0, Essex A 2; Somerset 0, Merseyside A 8; West Midlands A 3, Cumbria A 0; Derby B 1, Kent B 2, Hampshire B 2, Shropshire B 2; Warwickshire B 4, Middlesex B 3.

OAKHAM FESTIVAL (English Schools Football Association): East Berkshire 1, Cambridge 2; Grimsby 2, Poole and East Dorset 2; Lincoln 0, Wigan 2; Middlesbrough 0, Manchester 1; Mid-Oxfordshire 0, Liverpool 3; West Cornwall 0, Stoke 7

Cambridge 1, Manchester 2; Lincoln 1, Oxfordshire 1; Liverpool 3, East Berkshire 2; Stoke 1, Poole and East Dorset 0; West Cornwall 0, Grimsby 0; Wigan 0, Middlesbrough 3.

BULGARIAN: Dounav 2, Chernio More 3; Chernomorets 0, Levski Spartak 1; Botev 0, Trakia 2; Slavia 2, Sliven 0; ZSK Spartak Varna 1, Lokomotiv 1, CSKA Sofia 3, Beroe 1; Pirin 2, Etur 0; Spartak Pleven 0, Minor Pernik 0. Leading positions: 1, Levski Spartak 28 pts; 2, CSKA Sofia 24, 3, Pirin 24.

ROMANIAN: Dynamo Bucharest 0, Universitatea Craiova 0; Politehnica Timisoara 3, Politehnica Iasi 1, SC Bacau 0, Arges Pitesti 0; FCM Brasov 0, Rapid Bucharest 0; Baia Mare 1, Sportul Studentesc Bucharest 1; FC Olt 1, Gloria Buzau 0; Steaua Bucharest 3, Targu Mures 0, Corvinul Hunedoara 4, Jiul Petrosani 2, Bihor Oradea 4, Chimia Ramnicu Vacea 2. Leading positions: 1, Steaua Bucharest 42 pts; 2, Dynamo Bucharest 37; Sportul Studentesc Bucharest 36

BRAZILIAN: Portuguesa Desportos 1, America 1; Vasco da Gama 2, Botafogo 1; Goias 0, Fluminense 2; Palmeiras 1, Santos 1, Bahia 2, Corinthians 0; Internacional 3, Santa Cruz 0, Cruzeiro 3, Atletico Mineiro 2; Nautico 2, Coritiba 0. Leading positions: Group A: 1, Coritiba 10pts, 2, Fluminense 9; 3, Botafogo, Guarni, Atletico Mineiro, Corinthians, Palmeiras 8. Group B: 1, Bahia 16pts; 2, Vasco da Gama 14; 3, Goias, Santos 10.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Queen's Park Rangers 1, Ipswich Town 1; Birmingham City 0, Brighton 3. Fulham 3, Reading 0. Swindon v Tottenham, postponed.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor Regis v Tooting and Mitcham, postponed.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Fisher Athletic v Shepshed, postponed.

FREIGHT ROVER TROPHY: Quarter-final: York v Lincoln, postponed.

SQUASH RACKETS

STOCKTON: ICI Open Championship: Men: second round: M Saad (Egypt) bt D Khan (Pak) 9-6, 9-0, 9-6, G Briars (GB) bt K Smith (Aus) 9-1, 9-4, 9-1. Women: Second round: T Cundiffe (GB) bt R Anderson (Aus) 9-6, 1-9, 9-6, 9-7. R Blackwood (NZ) bt D Caldwell (SA) 10-9, 9-6, 9-1; C Glonda (Aus) bt D Gurran (NZ) 9-7, 9-5, 9-3; S Cogswell (GB) bt R Strauss (GB) 9-5, 9-7, 6-9, 9-1.

Chris Lloyd: comfortable victory at Hilton Head Island over Elise Burgin

BOWLS

WYNDHAM BELL: CIS Insurance International singles tournament: Semi-finals: D Bryant (Eng) bt B Sutherland (Scot) 7-5, 7-3; T Sullivan (Wales) bt J Baker (Ire) 7-2, 7-4.

TENNIS

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina: Women's tournament: Second round (US unless stated): C Lloyd bt E Burgin 6-1, 6-0; Ruzici (Rom) bt M Torres 6-1, 6-3; C Bassett (Can) bt B Herr 6-2, 6-4. C Kohde-Kilsch (WG) bt R Fairbank (SA) 7-5, 4-6, 6-3; P Huber (Austria) bt M Jausovac (Yug) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; K Maleeva (Bul) bt L McNeil 6-2, 7-6, (7-2); P Shriver bt K Reid (Aus) 6-1, 6-1; B Potter bt P Jauch-Delhees (Switz) 6-4, 4-6, 6-0; K Rinaldi bt S Mascarin 6-4, 6-1; C Kariesson (Swe) bt A Minter (Aus) 6-2, 6-4; M Maleeva (Bul) bt I Budarova (Cz) 4-6, 6-3, 6-0; P Casale bt G Purdy 6-1, 6-3.

NICE: Nice open: Second round: S Zivojinovic (Yug) bt A Maurer, (WG) 7-5, 6-3; H-J Schwaier, (WG) bt J Brown, (US) 7-6, 6-3, R Arguello (Arg) bt J Frawley, (Aus) 6-4; 6-3, D Perez (Uruguay) bt A Tous (Sp) 6-4, 6-4, T Benhabiles (Fr) bt A Ganzabal (Arg) 4-6, 7-6, 6-2; U Pecci (Par) bt T Tulsane, (Fr) 6-0, 6-2.

ICE HOCKEY

KOUVOLA, Finland: Finland 5, Canada 3

MEINEKEN BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Dundee Rockets 5, Fife Flyers 8.

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Division semi-final play-offs (best of five): Wales Conference: Patrick Division: Philadelphia Flyers 5, New York Rangers 4 (overtime), Washington Capitals 4, New York Islanders 3 (overtime). Adams Division: Boston Bruins 5, Montreal Canadiens 3. Quebec Nordiques 5, Buffalo Sabres 2. Campbell Conference: Norris Division: Minnesota North Stars 3, St Louis Blues 2. Chicago Black Hawks 9, Detroit Red Wings 5. Smythe Division: Winnipeg Jets 6, Calgary Flames 4 (overtime). Edmonton Oilers 3, Los Angeles Kings 2 (overtime)

CYCLING

BRINDISI: Tour of Puglia: Third stage (160km) (Italian unless stated): 1, G Saronni, 3hr 45min 31sec; 2, G Van Calster (Bel); 3, H Meier (Austria); 4, A da Silva (Port); 5, M Argentin; 6, J Van Der Velde (Neth); 7, D Cassani; 8, C Nevens (Neth); 9, G Baronchelli; 10, E Revasio (all same time as Saronni). Leading overall standings: J. Van Calster, 13hr 51min 43sec; 2, Van Der Velde, 13:51.58; 3, Saronni, 13.51 47.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Torquay v Plymouth Albion, postponed.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Celebition Open: First round: D Barrett (Wellington) bt R Tolchard (Malvern) 10-15, 10-15, 15-5, 15-5, 15-8; A Skidine bt D Watkins 15-6, 15-1, 15-10; M Wilson bt J Rogers 15-10, 8-15, 17-16, 15-7.

VOLLEYBALL

ODENSE (Denmark): Spring Cup: Men: Final: France 3, Netherlands 0. Third and fourth place: West Germany 3, Finland 0. 15th: England. England results: England 0, Spain 3; England 0, Finland 3; England 0, West Germany 3; England 1, Italy 3; England 2, Austria 3.

TOKYO: Japan Cup (Women): China 3, Soviet Union 1; South Korea 3, Mexico 0; West Germany 3, Czechoslovakia 0; Japan 3, Brazil 0.

BASKETBALL

ISLE OF MAN: British Championship: England 100 (Irish 23, Balogun 19) Scotland 65.

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Detroit Pistons 116, Indiana Pacers 114; New Jersey Nets 125, Philadelphia 76ers 100; Atlanta Hawks 98, New York Knicks 94, Milwaukee Bucks 106, Washington Bullets 97; Los Angeles Clippers 129, Denver Nuggets 127.

BASEBALL

UNITED STATES: American League (AAL): Detroit Tigers 0, Cleveland Indians 1; Boston Red Sox 14, New York Yankees 2; Baltimore Orioles 7, Texas Rangers 1; Toronto Blue Jays 1, Kansas City Royals 0 (10 innings); Seattle Marines 5, Oakland A's 4; Minnesota Twins 6, California Angels 3. National League (NBL): Montreal Expos 4, Cincinnati Reds 1; San Diego Padres 3, San Francisco Giants 0; Los Angeles Dodgers 8, Houston Astros 4.

GOLF

TAIPEI: Taiwan Open: First round leading scores (Taiwanese unless stated): 68: Ho Ming-Chung; 69: Chris Moe (US), R Alarcon (Mex), Lai Chung-Hui; 70: Jeff Lewis (US), Lin Chia; 71: Lee Kuo-Chih, Kuo Chie-Hsiung.

CORFU HEATH: Air Linguis schools championship: English national final: 1, Queen Elizabeth Grammar, Blackburn 244 2, Millfield Street, 247, 3, St Austell sixth form college, 256. Best individual score: R Taylor (Millfield) 77

SPEEDWAY

SPRING FOURS: (Arena Essex, Canterbury, Eastbourne and Hackney), postponed.

LEAGUE CUP: Sheffield v Halifax, postponed.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Long Eaton 55, Glasgow 22; Wimbledon 22, Peterborough 26.

SNOW REPORTS

The following reports have been supplied by a tourist board:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of piste	°C
FRANCE				
Chamonix	0	450		
Courchevel	80	120		
Flaine	75	220		
Les Arcs	95	255		
Les Menuires	40	140		
Méribel	20	150		

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Upper and middle runs, complete, wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes, snow cover patchy. Vertical runs: 140 ft. Hill and main roads clear. Snow level: 2400 ft. Glenshee: Insufficient snow for skiing. Glencoe (Open Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays only): Insufficient snow for skiing. Lecht: Upper runs. No snow. Middle runs, some complete, wet snow. Lower slopes, patchy cover of wet snow. Vertical runs: 400 ft. Hill roads clear. Main roads clear. Snow level: 2000 ft.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull ensure a sell out at Wembley

By Keith Macklin

Following the successful passage of Hull into the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final at Wembley on May 4th, Rugby League officials are anticipating a full house of around 95,000 for the great occasion of the season. Wigan and Hull are the two best-supported sides in the league, and each can be expected to take over 30,000 supporters to Wembley.

Hull made sure of their fourth Wembley visit in six years with a brilliant attacking performance in beating Castleford 22-16 in Wednesday's semi-final replay at Headingley. Six spectacular tries were scored in the first half.

Three players will miss Sunday's crucial championship game between St Helens and Hull Kingston Rovers. At yesterday's disciplinary committee meeting in Leeds, Steve Peters, the strong tackling St Helens half back, was suspended for three games, and two Rovers players, captain David Watkinson and second row forward Phil Hogan, were suspended for two matches each.

Barry Seabourne, the former Leeds, Bradford Northern and Great Britain scrum half has been appointed by Bradford Northern to succeed Peter Fox as coach when Fox leaves the club at the end of the season.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN CUP: Semi-finals, first legs: Liverpool 4, Panathinaikos 0; Juventus 3, Bordeaux 0.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNER'S CUP: Semi-finals, first legs: Bayern Munich 0, Everton 0; Rapid Vienna 3, Moscow Dynamo 1.

UEFA CUP: Semi-finals, first legs: Inter Milan 2, Real Madrid 0; Videoton 3, Zeljeznicar 1.

FIRST DIVISION: Nottingham Forest 2, Chelsea 0.

FREIGHT ROVER TROPHY: Quarter-final: Mansfield 1, Burnley 1.

WELSH FA CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Bangor 1, Newport County 0.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Arbroath Stenhsen 1; Berwick 0, Albion 1; Cowdenbeath 0, Queen's Park 0; Stenhousemuir 3, Stirling Albion 0.

SERVOWARM ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Windsor and Eton 2, Epsom and Ewell 5. First division: Clapton 0, Farnborough 1; Chesham 2, Staines 0; Lewes 0, Kingstonian 3. Second division north: Heybridge Swifts 1, Kingsbury 1. Second division south: Molesey 2, Camberley 0.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: South Liverpool 3, Oswestry 3; Gainsborough 3, Grantham 1. President's Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Hednesford 0, Rhyl 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvechurch 0, Cheltenham 1; Fisher 4, Shepshed 3; RS Southampton 4, Welling 0. Midland division: Coventry Sporting 6, Merthyr Tydfil 1; VS Rugby 1, Oldbury 2. Southern division: Dunstable 2, Ashford 3; Tonbridge 4, Addlestone 0; Thanet 1, Athletic 2.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 3, Huddersfield Town 0; Bradford City 3, Notts County 2; Manchester United1, Manchester City 2; Sheffield United 2, West Browich Albion 1. Postponed: Newcastle United v Stoke City. Second division: Doncaster 4, Blackpool 1; Grimsby Town 1, York City 1; Leeds United 7, Wigan Athletic 1; Port Vale 0, Leicester City 1.

ESFA UNDER-14 FESTIVAL: East Berkshire 1, Cambridge 2; Grimsby 2, Poole and East Dorset 2; Lincoln 0, Wigan 2; Middlesbrough 0, Manchester 1; Mid-Oxfordshire 0, Liverpool 3; West Cornwall 0, Stoke 7.

TURKISH CUP: Final, first leg: Trabzonspor 1, Galatasaray 2.

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Crystal Palace 2, Charlton Athletic 0; Norwich City 2, Chelsea 0; Oxford United 2, West Ham United 3.

EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Braintree 3, Histon 0; Colchester United 1, Tiptree 5; Gorleston 1, Sudbury 3; Soham 1, Lowestoft 0; Stowmarket 0, Newmarket 1.

HERTS SENIOR CUP: Final: Watford 5, Barnet 2.

MIDWEEK LEAGUE: Southend United 4, Bournemouth 0.

SOUTH-EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Cambridge United 0, Queen's Park Rangers 2.

MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP: Semi-final: Fulham 2, Enfield 1.

GOLA LEAGUE: Frickley 1, Enfield 0.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Cardiff 15, South Wales Police 0; Bridgend 35, Cross Keys 9.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: England Students 4, The Rest 30.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP: Semi-final replay: Hull 22, Castleford 16.

The beleaguered manager of Stoke City, a club with the consistency of Liverpool in reverse

Asprey: condemned man awaiting the merciful drop

Simon Barnes

The plight of Stoke City Football Club reminds me of the story of the African explorer who ran into hostile tribes and was found with 23 spears sticking in him. "Does it hurt, Currathers?" "Only when I laugh, old man."

Stoke have been defeated 23 times so far this season and they travel to Aston Villa tomorrow in search of the 24th. They have looked doomed since August. Stoke has become for visiting teams the city of buffet football: you go up there and help yourself. The club have acquired all the legendary consistency of Liverpool but the wrong way round.

Serene progress

True, they have bea

RACING: GOING AND TRIP SHOULD PROVE PERFECT FOR BAILEY'S TALENTED FOUR-YEAR-OLD AT KEMPTON PARK

Old Hubert to step up on promising Haydock run

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Old Hubert, a much-improved horse last autumn, is napped to win the Amaryllis Handicap Stakes at Kempton Park this afternoon. Alan Bailey's four-year-old started a well-backed second favourite for the William Hill November Handicap at Doncaster on the final day of the season but failed to land the spoils.

He finished only fifth but things did not go entirely his way in the early stages of the race and, in the opinion of his shrewd trainer, he would have had to have been a combination of Sea Bird II and Mill Reef to have won from where he was at the beginning of the straight – virtually last with 20 in front of him.

In the circumstances, Old Hubert did well to finish where he did. Perhaps a better idea of his true ability can be gleaned by referring to his penultimate race last season which took place on ground similar to today's, at Newbury. He was ridden there by Steve Dawson, Nicky Vigors's capable apprentice, and Dawson will again be in the saddle this afternoon.

At Newbury, Old Hubert strolled home four lengths ahead of Island Mill, who won her next race at Doncaster by 10 lengths. Old Hubert finished 16 lengths in front of Western Dancer, who now re-opposes on 9lb better terms.

However, the scales look tilted very much in favour of my nap as he has already had a race this season, and a most encouraging one at that. At Haydock last Saturday he was second under a big weight to Star Burst, who was already fighting fit from hurdling.

A greater danger than Western Dancer is likely to be that versatile and tough character, Floyd, who won the Queen's Prize at Kempton last Saturday, having run up a string of victories over hurdles which included the Imperial Cup at Sandown and the County Hurdle at Cheltenham.

Floyd will be ridden, as he was at Kempton, by David Elsworth's good young apprentice, Derek Brown. However, my feeling is that by beating Popsi's Joy and Insular at Kempton, in receipt of 22lb and 30lb, Floyd did nothing more than I would have expected over two miles.

Over today's much shorter trip and with Moon Jester, another proven front-runner, likely to take him on all the way, the way may be left clear for Old Hubert to assert himself when the race finally comes to the boil.

Soft ground and a good draw could enable Alakh, who finished second in the Ayr Gold Cup, to give Pat Eddery a winning ride in the Syringa Handicap Stakes at the expense of Fun Galore and Al Aimead.

Sadly the field for the Laburnum Stakes has cut up to only three – probably as a result of the very soft ground. Henry Cecil is confident, though, that That's Your Lot can retain his unbeaten record at the expense of the Cagnes-sur-Mer winner, Summer King, whose proven ability to handle the soft ground will inevitably attract support.

George Robinson, our Newmarket correspondent, told me yesterday that Terebinth will go well in the Polyanthus Maiden Stakes. Apparently, this son of that fast horse, Absalom, has been going well enough on the heath with Sand Iron, who was successful at Lingfield on Tuesday, to suggest that he must be followed.

With that in mind, it may be significant that Gavin Pritchard-Gordon's stable jockey, George Duffield, will be at Beverley, principally to ride Lochtillum for Jamie Douglas-Home in the Withernsea Handicap Stakes. Already a winner over today's course and distance, Lochtillum ran well enough at Newcastle last Saturday to foster hopes that he can get his own back on Lady Cara, his conqueror that day, even on only marginally better terms.

Finally, Rabinski looks the banker bet at Kelso in the *Horse and Hound* Buccleugh Hunters Chase, following an encouraging run behind The Drunken Duck at Sedgefield and a decisive victory at Carlisle last Saturday.

● Wolverhampton's Monday meeting is in doubt. A course spokesman said yesterday: "Parts of the course are severely waterlogged and there will be an inspection on Sunday morning."

Course specialists

KEMPTON

TRAINERS: H Cecil 13 winners from 46 runners, 28.9%; J Tree 6 from 31, 19.46%; R Armstrong 12 from 78, 15.8%.
JOCKEYS: W Carson 28 winners from 151 rides, 18.5%; S Cauthen 18 from 104, 17.3%; Pat Eddery 19 from 127, 15.0%.

BEVERLEY

TRAINERS: M Stoute 17 winners from 49 runners, 34.7%; C Thornton 14 from 54, 25.9%; E Weymes 12 from 57, 21.1%.
JOCKEYS: W R Swinburn 17 winners from 68 rides, 25.0%; J Bleasdale 12 from 63, 19.0%; P Robinson 10 from 67, 14.9%.

KELSO

TRAINERS: A Scott 21 winners from 85 runners, 24.7%; N Crump 9 from 56, 16.1%; K Oliver 12 from 75, 16.0%.
JOCKEYS: C Hawkins 19 winners from 90 rides, 21.1%; C Pimlott 14 from 85, 16.5%; P Tuck 16 from 92, 17.4%.

Double puts Wegner on top of the world

By Michael Seely

Stefan Wegner, of Bremen, became the Railfreight world champion jockey after riding two stylish and well-judged races at Cheltenham yesterday. A double on Horn of Plenty and Poyntz Pass and a third place on Jade And Diamond gave the 1984 German professional champion 24 points. Steve Smith Eccles took second place with 11 points, one ahead of Philippe Caus, of Belgium, and Tony Frick, of Norway, who dead-heated for third with victories on Celtic Cracker and Broad Beam respectively.

Wegner clinched his title by winning the Railfreight Handicap Chase on Poyntz Pass for Roger Fisher. Tom's Little Al made the early running but the German kept his mount glued to the inside rails throughout. Launching his challenge between the last two fences, Wegner drove Poyntz Pass clear up the hill to win by 1½ lengths. Smith Eccles and Restless Shot, the 5-2 favourite, finished a further 10 lengths away third.

Fisher was delighted, both with the jockey and with his winner. "I thought Wegner rode him coolly and well. We normally run Poyntz Pass in a crossed noseband as he pulls so hard. But today the horse settled kindly. Brod Munro-Wilson bought Poyntz Pass last week after he had finished fourth in the Whithread Trophy at Aintree. Now we're going for the Scottish Grand National at Ayr."

Wegner, who is 23, was German amateur champion in 1980, 1981 and and 1982. Last year, he won the professional title for the first time with 31 successes. He rides for the powerful "Wohler" stables in his hometown and altogether has had 105 jumping and 96 Flat winners.

Such a sound judge of pace and talented horseman is sure to make his mark as a world class rider in due course. But he was modest and unassuming in a quietly confident Teutonic manner after his triumph. "I really enjoyed myself," he said. "All my mounts jumped well. Poyntz Pass kept going strongly at his own pace and the others tired. I'm glad to have won but all jockeys look good when they're riding good horses."

Wegner plans to fly back to Bremen today. "I've ridden quite a lot in France and in F.E.G.E.N.T.Y. races all over Europe, but this is the first time I've ridden in Britain. Of course, I'd like to come back here again, but it's much too soon to be talking about it."

The only unfortunate incident, which marred an otherwise enjoyable, entertaining, and instructive afternoon, was the £50 fine inflicted on Paul Hillis, the New Zealand rider of King Burg in the Railfreight International Novices Handicap.

After hearing evidence from John Roberts, the Taunton trainer, and two veterinary surgeons, the stewards found Hillis guilty of improper riding in that he had used his whip excessively. Roberts was visibly upset. "The horse was cut about quite a bit. I looked as though the jockey had used a sabre rather than a whip," he said.

Hillis explained afterwards: "It appears that the whip I used is too short and too thin and therefore inclined to mark a horse too easily." Hillis had a further disaster when Desert Hero fell at the fourth flight in the T.O.P.S. Handicap Hurdle. The jockey was kicked both by his own mount, and also by Cocaine, who came to grief at the same flight, but was unhurt.

Caus's victory was gained on Celtic Cracker, whome the 20-year-old Belgian rider brought, with a well-timed run to beat Mossy Bell, the favourite. The winner had run well behind Van Trappe in the Joe Coral Golden Hurdle final at the National Hunt Festival, but had recently been pulled up a Towcester.

The stewards inquired into this dramatic improvement, but accepted the explanation of Bob Hartop, the trainer, that the ground at Towcester was holding clay and at Cheltenham the horses had seemed to go through the ground more easily. "They told me that they had had to pull all the cars out of the car park with tractors at Towcester," Hartop said.

After Cocaine had fallen in the T.O.P.S. Handicap Hurdle, Dodgy Future had looked assured of victory as Jerry Fishback, the 37-year-old American jockey, sent Stan Mellor's five-year-old clear of the front running Broad Beam. But with Tony Frick the Norwegian, using his whip powerfully and effectively, Broad Beam rallied gamely to win an exciting race by three-quarters of a length. "We're not allowed to use whips in Norway," the victorious jockey said.

However, the fact that Dodgy Future was carrying 9lb overweight, must have been a major factor in the runner-up's defeat. "I'd have given anything to have won," Fishback said. "But we're only three weeks into our season and I haven't been able to shed enough weight, yet." The sporting Mellor just shook his head, laughed and walked resignedly away.

Walking tall: Stefan Wegner explains how he and Poyntz Pass won the Railfreight Handicap Chase and with it the jockeys' world championship (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Final placings

RAILFREIGHT WORLD JOCKEYS' CHAMPION: 1, S Wegner (WG), 24pts; 2, S Smith Eccles (GB), 11; 3 equal, P Caus (Bel), 10; A Frick (Nor), 10. 5 equal, N Harnett (Aus), 7, J Fishback (US), 7; P Hills (NZ), 7; 8, D Bodler (Fra), 6. 9 equal G Colleo (Ita), 4, L Sward (Swe), 4, 11, A Mullins (Ire), 2; 12, S Hoshino (Jap), 0.

VOLLEYBALL

In shadow at home but roasted abroad

By Paul Harrison

England's men carried the wooden spoon away from the Spring Cup tournament which ended in Denmark last weekend. Five defeats out to five, including three by 3-0, starkly underlined the fact that there are no substitutes for proper preparation, not even effort and pride in performance.

The England team were always onto a hiding to nothing against teams whose preparations were, in the words of Andrew Lowczuowski, the England coach, "in another world". With national training time and warm-up matches kept to a minimum, the English are paupers in international terms.

Time and money need to be found if the English national team is to be taken seriously abroad. The English Volleyball Association accepts that Lowczuowski's complaints that not enough of either is made available are valid. "We are looking for ways to put more money into the national team programme," Richard Callicott, the EVA chairman, says. "We do need a successful national team but we don't have the reserves that other countries have to put teams together. We are still true amateurs."

Sponsorship or some other form of support needs to be found if potentially the best young squad England has ever had is to be properly developed. The interest of the televison companies in the women's game has provided exposure for the sport, but has pushed the men's game into the shadows.

The trend continues. England have been invited to join the women's circuit in Europe and a tournament will be held next January. In July, the Hitachi Cup will be held again. Both events will be televised. To redress the balance, the EVA hopes to put together a major men's tournament this year.

England's women play this weekend in their Spring Cup, in Israel, but are likely to find real international success as elusive as did the men.

HOCKEY

Triumph for British students

By Sydney Friskin

Britain's men regained the European Universities title on a cold wet and windy afternoon at Loughborough yesterday after defeating West Germany 3-1 in the round robin series. This success was only their second since the event was started in 1965, their previous win having been achieved at Edinburgh in 1978.

The last match was crucial for Britain, who had to beat the West Germans to take the title, and the prospects of doing so looked bleak when Luninghoner converted a penalty stroke for West Germany in the first minute. If the same player had not misfired in front of goal five minutes later Britain would have been in serious trouble.

Skinner equalized from a short corner almost on half time, and in the second half Britain scored twice through Potter and Davies, from short corners which led to scrambles, although the West Germans disputed the last goal. Two of their players were sent off with yellow temporary suspension cards for arguing.

Ireland won the women's event in unusual circumstances after drawing 2-2 in the morning with West Germany. The Germans then had to beat Britain by three clear goals in order to take the title from the Irish; but at half-time, with the score 1-1, West Germany conceded the match.

WOMEN: West Germany 2, Ireland 2; Britain 1, West Germany 1 (match conceded to Britain at half-time). Final placings: 1, Ireland 5 points, 2, Britain 4, 3, West Germany 3

MEN: France 1, Italy 2. West Germany 1, Britain 3; Belgium 0, Italy 3. Final placings: 1, Britain 6 points 2, Italy 5, 3, West Germany 3; 4, France 4pt; 5, Belgium 0.

England go to Dublin in confident mood

By Joyce Whitehead

With victories over Wales and Scotland already achieved this season, England's women should be in confident mood for their match against Ireland in Dublin tomorrow. At the same time in Dublin, the home international under 18 tournament will be reaching a climax.

At the National Sports Centre, Cardiff, on Sunday Newtown and Cumtawe play in the final of the Welsh Cup. Newtown beat Penarth 1-0 and Cumtawe beat Swansea 3-0 in the semi-finals. Sheila Morrow, the ex Welsh captain, has gained her Federationne Internationale de Hockey umpires badge.

ENGLAND UNDER 18 (from): L Bayliss (captain, W Midlands), A Davey (Hants), A Hall (Durham), M Allen (Herts), Y Ayshford (Surrey), F Cheyney (Hants), K Edwards (Norfolk), A Fleming (Lancs), J Hague (Merseyside), D Brown (Devon), S Chandler (Kent), J Lewis (Derbyshire), T Miller (Avon), J Sessman (W Midlands), J Green (Surrey).

WALES UNDER 18 (from): L Watkin (captain, Glamorgan), J Ems (Dyfed), S Evans (Dyfed), A Evans (Cardigan), H Thomas (Gwent), D Hazelwood (Powys), E Owen (Clwyd), S Morris-Jones (Gwynnedd), N Wynne (Clwyd), A Watts (Dyfed), G Richards (Mid Glamorgan), J Bickle (Clwyd), C Bell (Dyfed), J Roberts (Clwyd), S Thomas (Clwyd), A Richards (West Glamorgan).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Notts County v Barnsley (6.30).
FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Luton Town v Wagard (2.0); Oxford United v Crystal Palace (3.0).
SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Three Bridges (6.15)
SKEGNESS: English Schools FA festival.

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Castleford v Oldham (7.30), Hull v Hull Kingston Rovers (7.30).
SECOND DIVISION: Southend Invicta v Mansfield Marksman (8.0); Swinton v Bromley (7.30).

RUGBY UNION

LLANELLI: West Wales v Spain

SPEEDWAY

LEAGUE CUP: Ipswich v Belle Vue (7.30); Oxford v Cradley Heath (7.45).
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Edinburgh v Barrow (7.15); Hackney v Middlesborough (7.30); Eliesmere Port v Berwick (7.30); Glasgow v Poole (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: English national championships (at Coventry Sports Centre, 2.30).
SNOOKER: Embassy world professional championship (at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield).
SWIMMING: Britain v Sweden (at Blackpool).
TENNIS: Prudential British junior hard court championships (at Wimbledon).
GOLF: Scottish boys championship (at Dunbar); Halford Hewitt tournament (at Royal St George's).

KEMPTON PARK

GOING: heavy

Draw Advantage: 5-6f, low numbers favoured at last meeting.

2.0 POLYANTHUS MAIDEN STAKES (2-y-o: £1,902: 5f) (8 runners)

101 DOUBLE CHAI (Mrs M Jarvis) A Jarvis 9-0 ... T Rogers 6
102 0 MERRYMOLES (A J Bingley Ltd) M McCourt 9-0 ... R Wernham 7
103 MOORGATE MAN (D King) R Boss 9-0 ... Pat Eddery 8
105 TEETOY (T Tak Tam) M Jarvis 9-0 ... S Raymond 4
109 TEREBINTH (Miss H Gevers) G Pritchard 9-0 ... W Ryan 3 1
107 0 BERNIGRA GIRL (A Pecotto) M Haynes 8-11 ... J Jenkinson 3
109 HOTBEE (A Speake) J Bridger 8-11 ... R Guest 5
110 0 MISS VENEZUELA (Mrs S Popovich) C Horgan 8-11 ... P Cook 2

1984: Cronka Image 8-11 J Reid (8-1) B Swift 14 ran.

13-8 Teetoy, 7-2 Merrymoles, 5 Terebinth, 11-2 Moorgate Man, 8 Hotbee, 10 Double Chai, 12 others.

2.30 AMARYLLIS HANDICAP (£3,215.20: 1m 4f) (14)

201 411/0- CORINTH (G Strawbridge) I Balding 4-9-10 ... Pat Eddery 1
204 132120- LIBRATE (D Mailes) J Bradley 4-9-2 ... B Rouse 2
205 014000- TRAPEZE ARTIST (Introgroup Holdings) N Vigors 4-9-1 ... J Reid 13
206 2110-2 OLD HUBERT (D) (E Almeda) A Bailey 4-8-13 ... S Dawson 3 11
207 401404- DOMINATE (Mrs S Williams) P Mitchell 4-8-10 ... T Ives 5
208 103640- MOON JESTER (CD) (T Marshall) M Usher 5-8-9 ... D McKay 12
209 204030- NESTOR (P Hamlyn) G Lewis 5-8-9 ... P Waldron 10
210 022104- WESTERN DANCER (D) (Mrs G Stone) C Horgan 4-8-4 ... P Cook 5
212 000104 LOBKOWIEZ (D) (A Richards) C Britten 5-8-0 ... N Carson 4-6
213 033300- BOCODA LAD (D) (E Hill) C Benstead 4-7-13 ... D McKeown 9
214 14400/1 FLOYD (C) (M Weller) D Elsworth 5-7-13 (4 ex) ... D Brown 7 8
215 31011-0 ARBOR LANE (D) (A Papotto) M Haynes 4-7-8 ... - 6
216 00000-0 CATCHER IN THE RYE (T Smith) D Arbuthnot 5-7-7 ... - 14
217 00/0000 EVER BANKER (Miss A Whitfield) D Sherwood 6-7-7 ... R Street 7

1984: Moon Jester 4-8-2 D McKay (12-1) M Usher 21 ran

2 Floyd, 11-4 Old Hubert, 6 Librate, 8 Dominate, 8 Lobkowiez, 10 Trapeze Artist, 12 others.

FORM: LIBRATE 11th in St Leger final start, previously (8-10) neck 2nd of 5 to Inshgower (6-8) at Brighton (1m 4f, £1,814, firm, Aug 30). OLD HUBERT (9-10) 1½l 2nd of 9 to Star Burst (7-12) at Haydock (1m 4f, £2,498, soft, Apr 6). DOMINATE (9-8) 3l 5th, 8l 14 to Destroyer (9-3) at Newmarket (2m, £5,017, good, Oct 6). LOBKOWIEZ (8-4) 3l 4th of 23 to Abu Kadra (8-12) at Doncaster (1m 4f, £15,255, soft, Nov 10). OLD HUBERT (9-7) was another 5l back in 5th, and MOON JESTER (8-13) was 6th, FLOYD (7-11) ran on well to beat Popsi's Joy (8-12, 11lp) here (2m, £4,737, good to soft, Apr 8, 12 ran). ARBOR LANE, mid-division on reappearance, first start last season (8-5) beat Water Dragon (7-11) 2l at Chepstow (1m 4f, £2,677, good to soft, Oct 22). CATCHER IN THE RYE (6-10) finished well when 17l 6th of 30 to Steel Venture (8-8) at Doncaster (1m 2f, £2,012, good to soft, March 21).
Selection: MOON JESTER

Kempton selections

2.0 Terebinth. 2.30 OLD HUBERT (nap). 3.0 Alakh. 3.30. That's Your Lot. 4.0 Tangognat. 4.30 Lace Bandanna.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Terebinth. 2.30 Old Hubert. 3.30 That's Your Lot. 4.0 Ypsilantis. 4.30 Line Of Gold.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.30 FLOYD (nap).

3.0 SYRINGA HANDICAP (£2,511: 6f) (10)

301 100204 ALAKH (B/D) (Miss M Shanfe) J Tree 5-9-13 ... Pat Eddery 1
302 101100- GREEN RUBY (D) (E Weinstein) A Jarvis 4-9-7 ... T Rogers 9
305 10042-0 RANA PRATAP (Mrs G Thornberry) G Lewis 5-9-5 ... P Waldron 10
308 330000- NUMISMATIST (D) (A Solomou) M Salaman 6-8-9 ... R Street 6
309 000030- FUN GALORE (D) (Holdens Caravan Park) R Akehurst 4-8-6 ... W Carson 8
310 00100-2 BRIDGE STREET LADY (D) (M Wilkins) J Bosley 4-8-4 ... P Cook 9
312 00000-3 AL AMEAD (D) (H Al-Makloum) C Benstead 5-8-3 ... B Rouse 6
313 02200-0 REAR ACTION (D Hunnisett) R Smyth 5-8-1 ... - 3
315 000000- HAWKINS TENDER (Hawkins Harrow Ltd) S Harris 3-7-7 ... L Thomas 7

1984: Pussy Street 7-9-2 Pat Eddery (8-1) J Bosley 15 ran

9-4 Bridge Street Lady, 3 Rana Pratap, 9-2 Alakh, 11-2 Al Ameed, 10 Numismatist, Green Ruby, 16 others

Form: RANA PRATAP (9-12) never near to challenge when 11th to Cataldi (9-10) in the Lincoln at Doncaster (6f, £23,507, soft, March 23, 26 ran). FUN GALORE (8-1) 7th. First Start, previously about 2l 3rd of 17 to Milk Heart (9-4) at Newbury (6f, £4,669, soft, Oct 27). ALAKH (9-9) was another 2l back in 4th and BRIDGE STREET LADY (8-3) out of the first 9. BRIDGE STREET LADY (9-4) made most when 2½l 2nd of 17 to Sheila Crockatt (8-4) at Nottingham (6f, £1,325, soft, Apr 1). AL AMEAD (8-7) raced on far side and was clear at half-way before finishing about 5l 3rd to High Pitched (8-7) at Lingfield (7f, £3,215, heavy, March 30, 10 ran), with REAR ACTION (8-5) 7th.
Selection: AL AMEAD.

3.30 LABURNAM STAKES (3-y-o: £4,199: 1m) (3)

401 03-1 SUMMER KING (R Dee) R Armstrong 9-1 ... P Tulk 2
402 11- THAT'S YOUR LOT (L Freedman) H Cecl 9-1 ... S Cauthen 1
403 0- DOO BAYSH (F Salman) P Cole 8-10 ... T Quinn 3

1984: Royal Halo 8-10 G Starkey (7-1) G Harwood 16 ran

4-5 That's Your Lot, 2 Summer King, 7-2 Doo Baysh.

FORM: SUMMER KING, (8-9) beat Sword of Toledo (9-9) by ½l at Cagnes-sur-Mer (1m 2f, £4,468, heavy, Feb 12, 20 ran). THAT'S YOUR LOT, (9-7) had a very hard race when beating Honeyman (8-7) a short head at Yarmouth (7f, £6,054, good, Sep 18, 9 ran). DOO BAYSH (8-11) hampered early and never got into race when 18l 6th to Tour D'Or (8-11) at Ascot (7f, £7m 273s, good to firm, Sep 28, 8 ran).
Selection: THAT'S YOUR LOT

4.0 MAGNOLIA STAKES (3-y-o: £2,014: 1m 3f 30y) (5)

501 31 TANGOGNAT (C) (T Stafford) R Simpson 9-3 ... K Radcliffe 7 4
502 0 ABOU-AZIZ (S Hadeed) P Cole 8-11 ... T Quinn 3
506 0 PRESIDENTIAL (B) (M Ali) D Sasse 8-11 ... D McKay 1
508 YPSILANTIS (Capt M Lemos) C Brittain 8-11 ... A Lequeux 5
509 BELLA MADONA (Elisha Holding) M Jarvis 8-8 ... B Raymond 2

1984: Johnny Crown 8-11 D McHargue (10-1) L Cumani 20 ran

10-11 Tangognat, 9-4 Ypsilantis, 7 Bella Madona, 14 Presidential, Abou-Aziz.

FORM: TANGOGNAT, (9-0) a 20l winner here on Monday from Fire Of Life (9-0) with ABOU-AZIZ, (9-0) back in 9th on his debut, having dwelt at the start. (1m 4f, £1979, heavy, 10 ran). PRESIDENTIAL, (9-0) dwelt on debut when out of first 6 behind Cabelisto (8-0) at Nottingham (1m 2f, £1,328, soft, Apr 2, 14 ran).
Selection: TANGOGNAT.

4.30 FAMIANTHE HANDICAP (£2,485: 1m 2f) (9)

601 00001-0 MARLEY ROOFUS (D) (Marley Roof Tile) M Haynes 9-9 (7-ex) ... P Cook 2
603 021-3 LACE BANDANNA (D Koch) N Vigors 9-7 ... J Reid 7
604 02-02- WHAT A LINE (Mrs P Shaw) B Hills 5-13 ... C Booth 7 6
606 00-0 LINE OF GOLD (G Tong) R Armstrong 8-12 ... G Sexton 1
608 000- CAPTAIN FLASHMAN (J Horgan) R Hannon 8-8 ... A McGlone 5
609 0100- BLOODLESS COUP (T Marshall) M Usher 8-8 ... D McKay 3
610 000-0 SKI FANTASY (C Tan) M Jarvis 7-13 ... M L Thomas 9
611 03011-0 TOPSOIL (D Rankoff) R Simpson 7-12 ... K Radcliffe 7 4
612 00000-3 DREYFUS (F Sasse) D Sasse 7-11 ... S Dawson 3 9

1984: Risk All 8-8 B Rouse (6-1) J Dunlop 16 ran

2 Lace Bandanna, 5-2 Marley Roofus, 6 What A Line, 8 Topsoil, 10 Dreyfus, 12 Bloodless Coup, Captain Flashman, 16 others.

FORM: 4.30 MARLEY ROOFUS (9-4) had DREYFUS (7-13) 1½l back in 3rd when Lingfield winner Gundreda (8-11) at Nottingham (1m 2f, £1,213, soft, Apr 1). WHAT A LINE out of 3rd 9 final start, previously (8-11) 9l 4th of 10 to Prince georgetown (8-3) at Chester (6f, £2,847, good, July 13). LINE OF GOLD (9-0) 10th of 22 to Geraghty Di Couros (9-0) at Doncaster (6f, £822, good to soft, March 22). CAPTAIN FLASHMAN last of 23 first start, previously (8-11) led for over 4f when 7l last March 23). TOPSOIL 12½l 5th (9-5) to Glanmore of 5 to Petoski (8-11) at Salisbury (6f, £7,687, firm, June 26). LACE BANDANNA (8-13) 2l to Louis (8-13) on reappearance first start last season (8-7) beat Glanmore Louis (8-13) 2l in Doncaster seller (6f, £1,288, good to soft, Oct 26, 24 ran).
Selection: LACE BANDANNA.

● Tattersalls, Europe's largest bloodstock auctioneers, are to sponsor the Middle Park Stakes. The group one two-year-old race, run over six furlongs at Newmarket in October, will be known as the Tattersalls Middle Park Stakes and will carry added prize money of £32,500.

● Next season's Maiden Timber Novices' Hurdle series is to receive an additional £24,000 in prize money from the European Breeders' Fund. The fund will contribute £500 towards each of the 40 qualifying races and £4,000 to the final, which will be run at Cheltenham's April meeting. The series is confined to horses which have never raced on the Flat and it is this which has prompted the EBF support.

● Prize money for the Coral Eclipse at Sandown Park in July has been increased by £20,000 to £100,000, a record for the race.

Results from two meetings

Cheltenham

Going: Soft

2.15 (2m 4f hdle) 1, HORN OF PLENTY (S Wegner, 15-2); 2, Steel Yeoman (S Smith Eccles, 5-1); 3, Vick the Busker (G Collee, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Rainbow Lady (4th), 7 Come Alive, 16-2 Kitty Buskins, 8-1 The Jocelyn (6th), 10 My Cullen (5th), 11 Time-Bee (pu), 20 King Burg, 33 Brackley, 66 Ringabell (f). NR: Arapaho Prince, Geo-A. 12 ran. 1½l, 1½l, 4l, 2l. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye. TOTE: £4.50; £1.80, £1.30, £1.80. DF £14.50. CSF: £41.07. TRICAST: £1,088.58.

2.50 (3m hdle) 1, CELTIC CRACKER (P Caus, 8-1); 2, Mossy Bell (P Hills, 5-1 fav); 3, Alfie Dickins (D Bailey, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Secret Parade (4th), 7 Brass Tan, 11 Here's-Why (5th), Mister Pitt, Cut'n Dry (6th). NR: Gold Measure, The Disco Dago. 8 ran. 8ran. 2½l, 2½l, 5l, 8l, nk. R Hartop at Fernsfield. TOTE: £10.10; £2.10, £1.70, £1.40. DF: £11.30. CSF: £26.09.

3.25 (2m hdle) 1, BROAD BEAM (A Frick, 7-2); 2, Dodgy Future (J Fishback, 100-30); 3, Jade and Diamond (S Wegner, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 3 fav Cocaine (pd), 11 Solid Oak (6th), 14 Desert Hero (f), 20 Gloucester (6th), 25 Monza (4th). 8 ran. ¾l, 1½l, 15l, 30l, 6l. Mrs M Feast at Severn Bridge. TOTE: £3.50; £1.10, £1.20, £1.30. DF: £5.80. CSF: £13.90.

4.0 (2m 4f ch) 1, POYNTZ PASS (S Wegner, 4-1); 2, Tom's Little Al (N Harnett, 13-2); 3, Restless Shot (S Smith Eccles, 5-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Celtic Brew (4th), 15-2 River Rhein (pu), 9 St Alezan (pu), 25 Shamrock Bridge (f), 33 Lemor (pu). 8 ran. 1½l, 10l, hd. R Fisher at Ulverston. TOTE: £3.80; £1.40, £2.00; £1.30. DF: £11.50. CSF: £35.14.

4.45 (2m hdle) 7, SUPER GRASS (D Hood, 16-1); 2, French Union (M Pitman, 25-1); 3, Celtic Princess (P Plumb, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav General Chryson (6th), 3 Ashtons, 5 Larry-O, 12 Rhetianosa, 14 Marenzi (pu), 16 Cool Sun (5th), 25 Ballytrent, Cherry Melody (4th), 33 Irish Williams, Track Rythm, 50 Clair Soleil, Solerta, Wood Poppy. 16 ran. NR: Celtic Bob. 1l, 2l, 10l, 12l, 7l. S Mellor at Lambourn. TOTE: £12.80; £2.90, £5.80, £10.60. DF: £174.50. CSF: £216.19.

5.20 (3m 2f ch) 1, TEN CHERRIES (Mr M Bell, 2-1); 2, Sidbury Hill (Mr A Wilson, 8-1); 3, Pillager (Mr P Hacking, 40-1). ALSO RAN: 8-11 fav Border Burg (ur), 20 Hillingdon Boy (f), Spartan Scot, 150 Bob's Pride (pu) 7 ran. NR: Hanuman. 6l, 7l. Mrs M Rimell at Severn Bridge. TOTE: £4.70; £2.00, £1.90. DF: £10.80. CSF: £16.62.

5.55 (2m flat) 1, MRS MACK (Mrs S Twiston-Davis, 9-1); 2, Hasty Gamble (Mr C Brooks, 4-1); 3, Little Jack Horner (J D Davies, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 10-11 fav Rina Rose, 14 Sky Blue Singer, 16 Upheam Gamble, 20 Celtic Mercy, 50 Freshman, Gretta's Legacy, Hackleston, Prize Asset, Sax Coin, Soldier King, Vanishing Tarmac, Welsh Consort, General's Girl, Lady Doone, Light Venture, Pamela Would, Tregelrog, Trick Answer, Camella's Choice, Jim Sin Time, Moral Victory, Risbygate, Ross Tycoon, Woodleigh Prince, Miss Burgundy. 28 ran. NR: Blue Viv, Le Piat d'or. 2l, 1½l. N Twiston – Davies at Ledbury. TOTE: £5.20; £1.40, £3.40, £4.20. DF: £12.90. CSF: £43.09.

6.25 (2m flat) 1, SHEER STEEL (Mr S Cowley, 4-1); 2, Cavalier Choice (P Holley, 20-1); 3, Cadeby (M Hill, 2-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Wetherton Lad, 5 Prince Tobique, Tartan Torchlight, 7 Platinum Blond, 14 Unbeatable Tipp-Ex, 20 Conduit Court, Constable Kelly Gardeners Choice, Salisburst, Shottings, Celic Blade, Devil's Gold, Jeerpoint Jessy, Kaye-Wood, Little Myad, Member Lawn, Jack's Luck, Jacobs Dream, Quick Fencer, Quite Island, Springvale Bld, Beswick Paper Lady, Kessie-Bee, Light As Day, Melissa Gold, Rings Hill. 29 ran. NR: Running Arrow. 6l, 6l. P Cundell at Compton. TOTE: £4.40; £2.80, £7.00, £2.00. DF: £24.70. CSF: £90.49. PLACEPOT: £456.00.

Brighton

Going: good to soft

2.00 (6f) 1, ARTIC GUARD (T Quinn, 8-11 fav); 2, Hanalis Wood (G Baxter, 9-2); 3, Sir Walmers (A Bond, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Amoux (4th), 11 Single Bid, 16 Belle Towa' (5th), 20 Richmond Sisters, 33 Disport, Fort Duchesne (6th). 8 ran. NR: Via Satellite. ½l, 3l, 4l, 3l, 4l. P Cole at Lambourn. TOTE: £1.80; £1.10, £1.40, £2.00. DF: £2.70. CSF: £5.12.

2.30 (1m 2f) 1, DHOFAR (B Childs, 9-4); 2, Mobile Miami (C Rutter 15-8 fav); 3, Sandicliffe Again (S Dunham 50-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Big Pal, 11-2 Carmel Suite (4th), 25 Willemark, 33 Dallas Smith, 50 Gifted Child. 8 ran. 1¼, 10, 4l, 3l, 12l. G Pritchard-Gordon at Newmarket. TOTE: £3.40; £1.60, £1.10, £2.70. DF: £2.90. CSF: £6.34.

Alec Stewart: won with Castle Tweed, his first runner of the season, at Brighton yesterday

3.00 (7f) 1, JODY'S BOY, (D McKay 10-1); 2, Boss Festus, (R Fox, 8-1); 3, Kausak (B Rouse 8-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 5-2 jt fav Greek Banker, 7-2 Sitex, 10 Decreto (4th), 14 Out To Lunch, Win A Lot (5th) 15 Russell River, Porto Ivene (6th) NR: Street Level. 10 ran 2½l, sh/hd, 1½l, 2½l, nk. B Stevens at Bramley. TOTE: £14.10; £2.40, £3.70, £1.80. DF: £166.70. CSF: £88.62. TRICAST: £245.47.

3.30 (1m) 1, CASTLE TWEED (W R Swinburn, 4-1); 2, Empty Chest (G Duffield, 8-1); 3, Sea Formation (J Mercer, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Silent Treat, 11-2 Avec Coeur (6th); 8 Curtain Bluff; 9 Royaan; 12 Halland Park Boy; Westerham (4th) 14 Rare Stamp (5th). 10 ran ¾l, 3l ½, 1½l, 1½ A Stewart at Newmarket. TOTE: £6.40; £1.80, £3.00, £2.70. DF: £45.00. CSF: £29.36. TRICAST: £216.08.

4.30 (5f) 1, OLE FLO (S Whitworth, 4-6 fav); 2, Snap Decision (R Wernham, 3-1); 3, Miami In Spring (B Rouse, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 15-2 Calling (6th), 10 Bold Dash, 11 Prink, The Batchelor (5th), 12 Solent Lad (4th). 8 ran. NR: My Advocat. 8l, nk, 2½l, 1½l, ½l. K Brassey at Upper Lambourn. TOTE: £1.80; £1.10, £1.60, £2.20. DF: £2.50. CSF: £4.30. PLACEPOT: £65.25.

Blinkered first time

KEMPTON: 4.0 Presidential
BEVERLEY: 2.15 Bimini Ridge, 4.15 Jumeirina.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Gold Saul Oaks Stakes, Epsom: Kingston's Hope. Whitbread Gold Cup Handicap Chase, Sandown: Immigrate, Hello Dandy, Final Argument. All engagements (dead): Captain Pry, The Protector, Cruise On, Japalik, Supreme River, Lion Park, Bunce Boy, Moreton, Lotus Dancer.

Mercy Rimell: saddled two winners at Cheltenham with Broad Beam (3.25) and Ten Cherries (5.20)

Big race acceptors

GENERAL ACCIDENT 1,000 GUINEAS (Group I, 3-y-o fillies, 1m): Affirmed's Dance, Al Bahathri, Allashasy, Al Sylah, Alydar's Best, Ananas, Antarctica, Antiguan Reef, Arabian Moon, Avlance, Balsea, Belle Colora, Bold Erin, Cape Town Girl, Captive Island, Charge Along, Chepstow Vale, Cherry Ridge, Children's Corner (Fr), Dafayna, Danceila, Dawn Defender, Dublian, Ever Genial, Fatah Flare, Free On Board, Gallanta, Gazebera, Gagoush, Glory Of Hera, Gracious Girl, Grecale Magna, Green Leaf, Gwiffina, Happy Hannah, Helen Street, Hily, Hi-Tech Girl, Kashi Lagoon, Late Evening, Lost Cause, Magic In The Air, Mangala

TENNIS

High school boy achieves his place in history

From a Special Correspondent, Dallas

Aaron Krickstein, the 17-year old high school boy from Grosse Pointe, Michigan, has again created a piece of tennis history. Krickstein, who in Tel Aviv in 1983 became, at 16, the youngest player to win a grand prix title, has now made an impressive debut in the £425,000 World Championship Tennis finals here at the Reunion Centre.

Krickstein, youngest qualifier since the former world champion, Bjorn Borg, did the trick in 1974, yesterday defeated his experienced fellow American, Eliot Teltscher, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5. Grit and determination earned Krickstein his quarter-final place tonight against the former champion Jimmy Connors, who has been under treatment for a back injury since being forced to pull out of last Sunday's grand prix final in Chicago against the world champion John McEnroe. It is obvious that Krickstein, a hard-hitting baseline players is a good bet for the future – specially with America struggling for once.

Sweden have already claimed five places in the world's top 15 with Mats Wilander, Anders Jarryd, Henrik Sundstrom, Joakim Nystrom and Stefan Edberg leading the way.

Krickstein has already earned a Davis Cup place and the way he recovered from trailing 1-3 in the final set against the experienced 26-year-old Teltscher again demonstrated that he has the qualities for the future.

He has been beaten twice by Connors but now has a chance to make his mark and says: "He was noe of my idols, but now that's all in the past. I can't even concentrate on my schoolwork these days so may be it's a good job that I can play tennis."

Joakim Nystrom also reached the quarter-finals with a 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 win in an error strewn match over his lethargic fellow Swede Henrik Sundstrom. Nystrom, aged 22, faces McEnroe, the top seed and defending champion.

Nystrom held his service with ease throughout in gaining his first professional victory against Sundstrom after four defeats, all on clay. He elected to stay on the baseline throughout. Sundstrom, who usually stays back, experimented by coming to the net on the fast indoor surface.

Unfortunately for Sundstrom, he invariably ventured forward too soon.

First round: A Krickstein (US) bt E Teltscher (US) 7-5, 2-6, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5; J Nystrom (Swe) bt H Sundstrom (Swe) 6-3, 6-3, 6-4.

Juniors take a rest on way to the peaks

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

The other day a friend suggested that one of the joys of dear old England was the rain that gives the land such an enchanting assortment of greens. We were hill-walking in the Peak District at the time, and waxing philosophical about hours of wetness. Tennis is more vulnerable to disruption. The Prudential British junior hard court championships were arrested by persistent watering at Wimbledon yesterday.

The oldest of Britain's three junior championships (the others are contested indoors and on grass) are played on shale courts tucked away behind tall hedgerows in Wimbledon's hinterland. Matches are umpired by unemployed players. Yesterday all were unemployed. But Richard Whichello, Clare Wood and Jane Wood, who had all advanced to the quarter-finals, have been granted wild card places in the draw for next week's British Home Stores tournament at Hampstead.

This will be the first of five events on a circuit designed primarily for young players trying to improve their world rankings. The other tournaments will be at Queen's Club, Sutton, Bournemouth and Lee-on-Solent. The Lawn Tennis Association are investing about £75,000 in the forthcoming circuit, plus a further £20,000 in a series of subsidiary tournaments. The idea is to provide opportunities for a wide range of British players to gain competitive experience and, perhaps, move a rung or two up the ladder.

Some of the boys in action at Wimbledon this week, and elsewhere in the next five weeks, have an additional incentive. There is still one vacancy in the new LTA squad of youngsters sponsored by Laing, the construction company. So far Whichello, Jason Goodall and Chris Péet have been chosen. Paul Hutchings, the national team manager, said yesterday: "I'm not committing myself, but there is every possibility that after this week and the satellite circuit I will be in a position to appoint another member – somebody who is playing full time

SWIMMING

Britain have nothing to fear from Sweden

By Athole Still

Britain's team of 35, which tackles Sweden in the match sponsored by Yorkshire Bank in Blackpool this evening and tomorrow afternoon, should approach their task with considerable confidence. In June last year we defeated the Swedes very convincingly in Jönköping and our visitors have achieved nothing in the interim to suggest that they can turn the tables now. Moreover, most of the home competitors are in excellent form after a highly successful national short-course championship last weekend.

Unfortunately, however, it cannot be said that the present British squad represents the strongest possible selection, because somewhat imprudently the team was chosen two weeks before the short-course championship and the results there have caused much embarrassment both to the selectors and to some of our competitors in Blackpool, nine of whom would probably not have made the team had it been selected later.

The principal interest will centre on Adrian Moorhouse (City of Leeds) in the breaststroke event and on Caroline Cooper (Potters Bar) in the 100m butterfly, both of whom recorded performances of genuine world significance (Moorhouse an all-time world-best over 100m in the 25m course last week.

IN BRIEF

IOC delay deadline

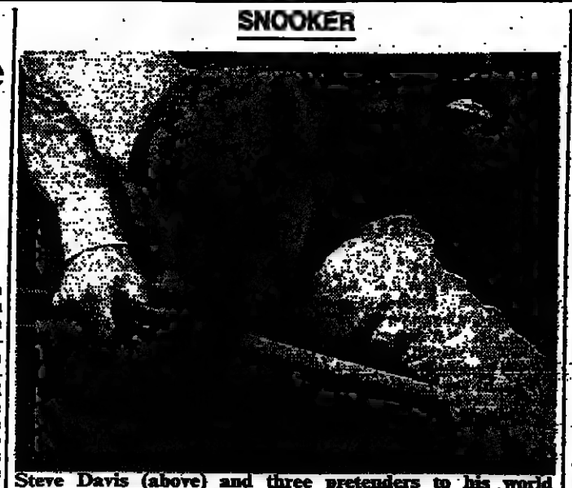
The British Olympic Association have been granted an extra three months to prepare their bid to stage the 1992 Olympic Games. Four British cities – Birmingham, London, Manchester and one which did not wish to be named until local councilors had come to a formal decision – have shown interest in staging the Games.

CRICKET: Natwest Bank have renewed their contract with the Test and County Cricket Board. The five-year deal, protected against inflation, to sponsor the NatWest Trophy should be worth about £2 million.

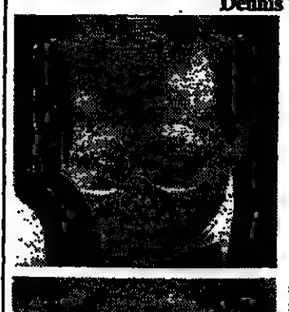
ATHLETICS: South Africa's racial policy of apartheid may cause one of the fastest runners entered for the Boston marathon on Monday to be ruled ineligible because he is South African. Mark Plaatjes came from Johannesburg for the race, but the International Amateur Athletic Federation bars athletes from South Africa in competitions.

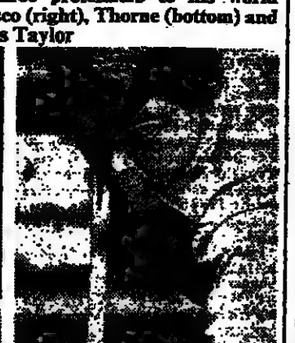
BASKETBALL: Teams from St Albans, Peterborough, Oldham, Brixton, Stoke and Cleveland will have their applications to join the men's second division of the National League vetted at an English Basketball Association meeting at Nottingham today. The four new applicants for the women's second division are Swindon, Bracknell, Tyneside and Birmingham.

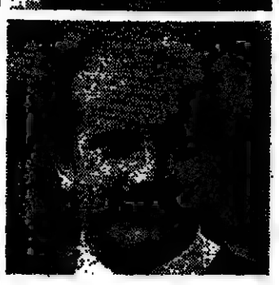
SNOOKER



Steve Davis (above) and three pretenders to his world championship crown, Francisco (right), Thorne (bottom) and Dennis Taylor







Open race as Davis aims for treble

By Sydney Friskin

Steve Davis, the winner for the last two years, begins the defence of the Embassy World Championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield this morning with a 19-frame match against Neal Foulds. The event has the most open outlook for several years but Davis, the No 1 seed, is the favourite.

Three unexpected winners emerged from the new events this season – Dennis Taylor in the Rothmans Grand Prix, Willie Thorne in the Mercantile Classic and Silvino Francisco in the Dulux British Open. Cliff Thorburn regained the Benson and Hedges Masters title and Davis was shut out of a season which at the start seemed to be going very much his way.

However much these events may have excited the players with spiralling prize money, they cannot compare with the prestige of the world title and all its concomitant awards. A record sum of £300,000 is on offer, the winner receiving £60,000.

Alex Higgins, the winner in 1982 and still the most exciting player on the circuit, has not won an individual title this season. His consolations have been a half-share in the Hofmeister world doubles tournament with Jimmy White and a portion of the prize won by Ireland in the Guinness world team championship. He is in the top half of the draw and could meet Davis in the quarter-finals.

White's recent victory over Higgins in the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters final could inspire him to nobler deeds in the bottom half, where he faces a possible second-round meeting with Tony Meo

First Round: S Davis v N Foulds; David Taylor v D O'Kane; A Higgins v D Reynolds; T Griffiths v R Williams; R Reardon v E Hughes; W Thorne v P Fagan; F Spencer v J Parrott; K Stevens v R Edmonds; C Thorburn v M Hallett; W Werbeniuk v J Johnson; Dennis Taylor v S Francisco; S Charlton v J Campbell; J White v W Jones; A Meo v J Virgo; D Mountjoy v M Macleod; A Knowles v A Jones.

A small hall houses Kaylor's big return

When £200,000 worth of boxing talent goes on show in London on Sunday night fewer than 1,300 spectators will be able to see it. The promotion, which originally featured a middleweight contest between Tony Sibson and Buster Drayton, an American, was due to take place at the 10,000-seat Wembley Arena, with live television to the United States via NBC.

When Sibson dropped out and was replaced by James Kinchen, another American, the show was hastily transferred to York Hall, Bethnal Green. The American television link remains but the promoter, Mickey Duff, said: "Once Sibson had gone we could not have left it at Wembley. So we have fights worth £200,000 and world-rated fighters and it all finishes up in a small hall."

The show marks the return of Mark Kaylor in his first contest since losing his British and Commonwealth titles to Sibson in November. He meets Richard Berionek, of Toledo. Cornelius Boza Edwards, of Harrow, the former world light-welterweight champion, now American-based, meets Melvyn Paul, of New Orleans.

Drayton, who has stopped Kaylor and Jimmy Cable, the British light-middleweight champion, may meet Sibson or Kaylor on May 25 if he disposes of Kinchen.

Prince Rodney, the former British light-middleweight champion, has parted company with his manager, Maurice Hope, and has been signed by Frank Warren. Warren will be Rodney's fourth manager since he turned professional in 1977, the others being the Yorkshire-based Tommy Miller and Trevor Calligham.

Rodney's first assignment under Warren will be to challenge Cable for the British title at the Hastings Pavilion on May 11. The contest has been postponed three times, the last occasion being in February when Rodney went down with chicken pox.

● BANGKOK: The WBC flyweight title bout between Sot Chitrlada, the champion, and Gabriel Bernal, due here on May 17, has been postponed until June 15. No reason was given here for the postponement.

BOXING

Hearns earns lead in the phoney war

From Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent, Las Vegas

Thomas Hearns, the challenger for Marvin Hagler's world middleweight title, moved a few more points ahead of the champion in the race to gain psychological superiority in the build-up to the big fight on Monday.

Hagler appeared to be trying too hard to re-establish himself in the eyes of the Press as the dominant figure in the power struggle. "I hate all my opponents, especially this man. He's too cocky," the champion said. "The Hit Man will be the Hurt Man on Monday."

Hagler then promised to "beat the shoes off Hearns" before "eating him". Hearn's answer was callisthenics with children in the official training ring at Caesar's Palace, where the bout will be held.

Hagler said he would knock out the challenger but refused to predict the round. Hearns, in his quiet way, still maintained that the champion would fall in three: "I really deep down inside believe we're gonna go three rounds." Whereas Hagler reiterated that he wanted to retire next year, the challenger heaped the pressure on him by announcing that he would be trying to be the first man to win four titles by taking on Michael Spinks for the world light-heavyweight title next year.

"That has been my dream ever since I started fighting," Hearns said. "I always wanted to be the first man to win four different titles. I've already won two. I know I can beat Marvin Hagler and then I'm heading up to 175lbs."

The challenger did not talk as forcefully as Hagler but Emanuel Steward, Hearns's manager, made the case for the Detroit man. Steward said that he had started making plans for the fight with Hagler after Hearns's defeat at the hands of Sugar Ray Leonard three years ago. "Thomas was depressed for a long time after that defeat, but when he felt ready I put him in with Ernie Singletary and that started him back on the road. I gave him better and heavier opponents and when he knocked out Duran in the second round after Hagler had taken 15 to beat him, Thomas came to me and said: 'I'm going to be the Hit Man again.' And he proved it by kayoing Fred Hutchings three months later."

Steward maintains that Hearns will be too fast and too heavy a puncher for Hagler. "Marvin has never met an opponent like Hearns before, Steward said. "Hagler has always fought people he knew he could beat. Hearns has the fastest hands in the world that can hurt you. Even when he is wearing 18oz gloves in sparring you can see how fast he is."

According to Steward, Hagler has now reached the age (30) when he is ready to go. "I have noticed some signs that Hagler is slipping and that, together with his eagerness about not being a favourite, must go against him when he feels the full weight of Hearns's hands. I believe Thomas will start to get to him as early as the second round."

The challenger received a boost from one of today's most respected trainers, the 73-year-old Eddie Futch, who trained Joe Frazier and now is in the corner of Larry Holmes and Michael Spinks. "I have got to back the man with the right against a southpaw like Hagler," Futch said. "Yes, I can see Hearns knocking Hagler out."

The two men face each other in the final Press interview tonight. This will be their first meeting since the three-week joint promotional tour during which they built up the healthy dislike for each other that has worked wonders for the big show. Both men are guaranteed $5.1 million (about £4.25 million) and a percentage of the gate. As things are looking now, the contest is expected to be "the largest grossing close-circuit telecast in boxing history".

Hearns: fast hands

SCHOOLS RUGBY

Good going and prospects at Epsom

By Michael Stevenson

Epsom College's first victory in Rosslyn Park's National Schools' Festival Sevens, in which they defeated Bryanston by 22-0 in a surprisingly one-sided final, was the climax to a remarkable run of success. The first XV, coached by Peter Benson, have been unbeaten for two seasons.

In their 12 wins out of as many games, Epsom conceded only three tries and scored 328 ponts, while 45 were scored against them. Success was built upon power in the pack and a fast threequarter line, in which Warren, the left wing generally regarded as the best player on view at Rosslyn Park, created a school record with 23 tries.

It would be interesting to know if any other school side has been unbeaten for the past two seasons. What is even more remarkable, Epsom teams at all age levels lost only two matches (one by the Under-16s and one by Under-14s) this season. In each age group, the record is almost as impressive as at first-team level:

	P	W	L	F	A
Under 18	18	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Under 15	11	11	0	246	32
Under 14	11	11	1	[illegible]	[illegible]

Andrew Marriott, master in charge of rugby at Bryanston, Epsom's victims in the Rosslyn Park final, writes of their impressive record in sevens tournaments. "Since 1979 we have won at Rosslyn Park once, reached the final on two occasions, been semi-finalists twice and only once during these seven years have we been eliminated by any team other than the eventual winners".

Denstone College have just returned from an enjoyable tour of the Netherlands in which they defeated Eijsen Leuc. Youth (28-3) and Rotterdam Junior 19s (33-0).

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Motoring by Clifford Webb

Brazil's market hopes take a plunge

Five years ago, when car production in Brazil topped one million, British output fell to less than one million for the first time since the early postwar years. By now resigned to steadily declining production in the face of booming imports, we sighed and added the name of Brazil to the list of emergent motor industry countries to be watched.

But the alarm bells really began to ring when two of the EEC's biggest car makers, Volkswagen and Fiat, began to sell Brazilian cars in some of their European markets. At the same time they were importing large numbers of Brazilian-made engines for cars assembled in Germany and Italy.

No one was more concerned than the trade unions in those countries. They had good reason. Vast Brazilian labour resources were available at ridiculously low wages. Brazilian government and local state finance covered up to half the capital investment for setting up new plant, and government bonuses cut the cost of exporting a car by 26 per cent.

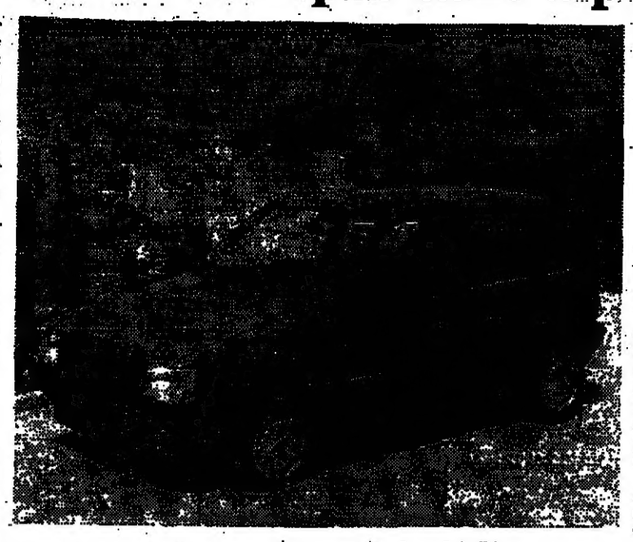
The two biggest motor giants in the world, General Motors and Ford, had already showed the way to cheaper worldwide production by investing heavily in those countries offering the most favourable terms and exporting the output to less favoured markets. So cars moved, for example, from Spain to Britain.

But things turned sour in Brazil, under constant pressure from the International Monetary Fund to stabilize its economy and tackle inflation approaching 300 per cent a year. The Brazilian market for cars has gone steadily downhill. Faced with unwanted capacity and long-term undertakings to maintain employment, the Big Four, VW, GM, Ford and Fiat, had no alternative but to turn increasingly to exports – the bulk to neighbouring South American countries but significant numbers to Europe.

Big four

Fiat was the last of the big four to arrive in 1974. On the strength of buoyant government forecasts it built a 200,000-cars-a-year plant. This year it will produce 165,000, of which nearly half will be exported, at a considerable loss according to Fiat. But it will also export another 150,000 engines including diesels, to Europe to help to contain these losses.

In Brazil this week Fiat executives were at pains to explain to me that despite the many forms of government subsidy and low wages it was still more expensive to build both cars and engines in Brazil than in Italy. They reasoned that automation in Europe is now so advanced that it more than closes the cost gap with their very labour-intensive plant at Belo Horizonte, about an hour's flying time from Rio di Janeiro.



The Fiat Uno turbo: spectacular launch in Rio

Fiat comes a poor fourth in the Brazilian market with a 10 per cent share, compared with VW's 40 per cent, GM's 27 per cent and Ford's 20 per cent. But as the newest arrival it has tried to gain an edge by gearing itself to produce alcohol-powered cars for local sale. The alcohol, sold under the name Alcool and made mainly from sugar cane, is 35 per cent cheaper than petrol.

Pump prices last week were £1.17 a gallon for Alcool and £1.80 for petrol. But as Alberto Fava, executive vice president of Fiat Brazil said; "It will not stay that way for long. The one thing you can count on in Brazil is that prices will keep going up."

In the few days I was there the government announced another price freeze. It will have little effect. A store manager in Rio told me: "Brazilians buy now, never tomorrow. Inflation last year was between 200 and 300 per cent but nobody really knows how much. It depends whose figures you use to calculate it. The rate of exchange for foreign currency goes up almost daily. It is time we had another devaluation of the cruzeiro. At 5,500 to the pound it would make sense to remove the last three figures."

Nearly half the cars on Brazil's roads run on Alcool today. The result was apparent as soon as I stepped off the aircraft. There was a sweet and quite pleasant smell in the air which I assumed at first was a tropical scent. It was over 100°F at the time although Rio is now in its autumn season.

As we neared the city centre the smell became stronger, reminding me of the toffee my wife used to make, but a colleague joked that it was why all the locals look so happy. "They get drunk just by breathing it in", he insisted.

Fiat never does things by half, although the logic behind some of its public relations ventures stretches the bounds of credibility. Two years ago it chose to launch its new "Uno Supermini" in Florida and Wuropean motoring journalists found themselves hurtling this impressive newcomer around a race track for boringly long periods when they really wanted to test it in its natural environment – demanding European city traffic interlaced with fast motorway journeys.

Since then Uno has become Fiat's biggest success for 10 years. So Turin decided that something equally spectacular was needed to launch the fastest Uno of all, the 124 mph Uno Turbo. By yet another stretch of the imagination – not to mention the budget – they chose Rio and offered three reasons: Uno means one in Italian and Fiat Brazil had just made its one millionth car; Rio was staging the Brazilian Formula 1 (Uno) Grand Prix; and the Brazilian press had just voted the Uno car of the year.

Whatever the reasons I found myself at the wheel of a new Uno Turbo which the dusky beauties of Copacabana and Ipanema beaches found more attractive than their musclebound menfolk, judging by the way they crowded around at every stop.

The 80 kilometer test route had been chosen to provide a mixture of three-lane fast highways and narrow winding tracks through banana and other tropical fruit plantations. Alas, Brazilian lane discipline is non-existent. Cars overtake by swerving across all three lanes and dodging in and out of the smallest gap. There is no designated fast lane as we know it. The fast lane is the one you have beaten the other car to.

By returning to cover some of the route a second time when the traffic was light I was able to reach an indicated 210 kph (130 mph). Allowing for the inbuilt optimism of today's speedos the claimed 124 mph maximum would seem to be justified. At that speed the Uno Turbo feels very stable. It also has some of the most reassuring small car brakes I have yet encountered.

But it was in the plantation country that the little flyer really came into its own. The engine seems unburstable. Playing tunes on the five-speed gear box to keep the needle in the 5,000-6,000 rpm sector on the rev counter still leaves you feeling there is much more to come.

With such a lovely piece of machinery it is not surprising that even senior motoring writers were caught up in the excitement of the occasion. One poor Brazilian out for a quiet Easter drive in the family estate had parked at the exit of a blind bend. As one turbo after another hurtled past the family's impromptu grandstand they clapped the most spectacular, tyre-screaming performances but gave a vigorous thumbs-down to more sedate drivers. If only they knew how close they came to collecting a new mascot on their already battered bonnet.

For the more technically minded the 1301cc four-cylinder engine has a new cast-iron cylinder block which permits additional water cooling. The turbocharger is water-cooled and develops its power remarkably quickly, producing maximum torque at only 3,200 rpm. On paper at least the Uno Turbo is reasonably frugal on petrol. Its average consumption is quoted at 38 miles per gallon but with that sort of power on tap who is going to drive it with a feather-like touch on the accelerator?

King retires

One of my favourite motor industry boffins has just retired after 40 years with BL and its earlier companies. Mr C. S. (Spen) King CBE is best remembered for his creative work at Rover on Jet 1, the first gas turbined car, but he was also closely associated as chief engineer with the development of all Rover and Triumph cars from the 1950s to the mid-1970s. Names such as the Triumph Spitfire, Stag, TR6/7, Dolomite Sprint, Rover 2000 and of course the Range Rover spring to mind.

In more recent years Spen was able to give his immensely fertile mind freer rein as vice-chairman of BL technology, the group's research and development company. Despite this more cloistered role he remained one of the most approachable and gentle executives in an increasingly frenetic industry.

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85 B 735i Auto, SE, Metallic ice green, black leather trim, LSD sport wheel gloss elec sunroof elec. memory and heated front seats burglar alarm 4,000m.
BMW IN THE CITY OF LONDON
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B reg. Sept. '84. 7,000 miles. Addition to family forces reluctant sale of my B9. Full spec. 245BHP. Henna Red, Beige leather, Recaros, Air conditioning. 100 Watt per Channel Quad stereo (£1,000 list).
£27,500
Tel.: 061-969 4042 office 0895 449669 home

BMW 735i AUTO (Y)
Metallic silver, electric sunroof, alloy wheels, air cond, abs, on board computer, rear window blind, 1 owner, 35,000 miles. FSH. PX poss. £11,950.
0484 510707 or 510858 (business) 721011 (home).

320i AUTO 1983
New shape, power steering, factory sunroof, alloy wheels, Blaupunkt Montreal 4-speaker stereo, opal metallic green, 36,000 miles, immaculate. £7,995. – Tel: 0291 421 416.

BMW 735 SE
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045-387 3495 (after hours) 045-583 3922 (office)

7321 A. Air cond, s'roof, new tyres, very hist, met blue, Porsche rx for Drophead Merc. £5,950. Tel (093333) 54321.

1984 635 CSi COUPÉ, sapphire with blue leather Roccaro seats, sunroof extra incl steepskin rugs. 10,000 mile service only last week, fastidiously maintained by non smoking owner. £22,950. Tel Sheridan 01-637 8181. Guildford 892643.

320i new shape, red sunroof, Pioneer radio cassette, 56,000 miles. £6,750. Tel Dursley 843795.

1982 Y BMW 520i, o/d, safari beige/brown, cloth, new shape sunroof, r/cassette, 43,000 miles. Dealer maintained, (last bad full service), balance of warranty to end July. Excellent condition throughout. £5,750 ono. 0283 222070 Mr Place (office). 0602 399471 (home).

316 new shape red 83. Full spec. 5,000 miles. Immac. £6,100 ono. Tel: 870 7862 or 248 4728 x39 office.

LHD BMWs. USA experts. Buying and selling. Trans European Ltd. 01-488 1016.

7321 A 83. 4 speed gearbox, air cond, ABS, many extras, sapphire blue. £11,495. Windsor 51847 (T).

323i AUTO. Dec '81. FSH. 31,500 miles, vgc. £5,500, offers for quick sale. Langley. 01-445 3987.

2321A, 4 door (B) silver, red/case, s/roof, ABS, del mile, save £2,300+ £11,995. Windsor 51847 (T).

1982 X 323i, black, auto, PAS, r/case, 21,500 mls. £7,450. 01-493 7705. (T)

BMW 320 X reg. auto, pas, sunroof, silver met, showroom cond. 35,000 miles. £5,750. Tel 01-508 5917.

1983 (Y) 320 CABRIOLET, Opal 16,000 miles, full specification. £9,250. Tel 01 785 9638.

1981

732i Automatic. Extras include electric sunroof, electric windows, TRX wheels, rear head rest. Radio Cassette. Taxed, 38,000 miles. With full history. Immaculate.
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318 (A) NEW MODEL. Metallic burgundy/anthracite, 5 gear, Pioneer stereo. Extended manufacturers warranty. Immaculate condition. 17,000 miles. £5,875. Tel Cheddington (0296) 668016.

BMW 525SE Executive car. A reg '83, full specification, graphite/red leather, full electric Pioneer stereo, 20,000 miles. £12,275. Tel: office hours 02403 28581.

BMW 320i Auto 1983. p.a.s. Elec Sunroof. 22,000 miles. One owner. Polaris. Immaculate. £7,450. Tel: Beaconsfield (04946) 5785. After 6 pm.

BMW 525SE Executive car. A reg '83, full specification, graphite/red leather, full electric Pioneer stereo, 20,000 miles. £12,275. Tel: office hours 02403 28581.

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MERCEDES 230 E export model 1981, registration, sunshine roof, 41,000 mls. Superb condition, 1 owner, £6,950. Tel Chelmsford (0245) 72520.

450 SL Aug 78. Pale met green, hard/soft tops, auto, e/windows, c/rear seat, conv alloy windows, c/cass, exc cond. £11,950. (075 834217/834174.

280SE 1980 W auto, met/gold, p/steering, e/sunroof, e/windows, c/locking, radio/stereo, LHD, 90,000 mls, excel cond. £5,750 ono. Tel: Bolton Lancs 24875.

230E, April '83, 22,910 miles, 1 owner only. As new. £9,750. Tel: Windsor 54963.

280SE 1983. - Champagne, s/roof. Many extras. 25,000 miles. £14,500. Phone 0628 34808.

280 SE 1983, 15,000 miles. Mint. Many extras. £15,950 ono. Tel: 0530 41298.

230E X REG LL Ivory, auto, e/r, rad/cass, tsh, superb. £5,800. St Albans 59656.

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3,000 miles, one owner, metallic manganese brown/light brown interior, every extra. UK supplied, as new.
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240 D Mercedes Saloon 1984 'B' Reg
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230E, X reg. auto Champagne, 29,000 miles, immac, tsh, csr, sr, New Yorker stereo. £6,250. 0492 30296.

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280 (V) SE. Met green velour, ESR, E/W manual, 24,000 miles. £9,250. Derby 0332 762071.

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LHD 280SL 83/84. 5 speed, alloys, metallic champagne/brown, MB leather. 12,000 mls, S/history, as new. £16,975. 01 903 6566 (day). 01 886 0878 (eves).

82 MODEL MERCEDES 500 SEL, 4 speed auto, a/c, e/roof, alloy wheels, leather, orthopaedic seats, e/seats, full climate control, self levelling. £16,750. 0793 762051. (T).

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ROVER 100 1980 MOT'd. Beige/blue two tone o/d. Very clean condition. Personal reg no. £895. Tel: Castle Bay Ltd. 07352 94141.

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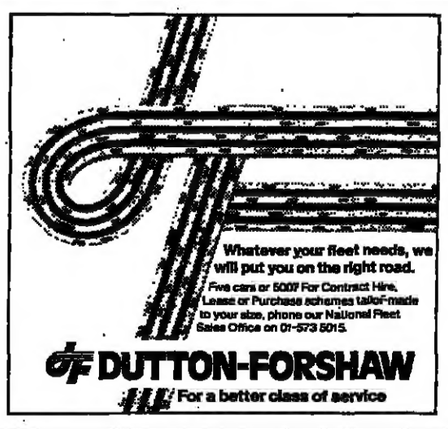

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'84 B Turbo 16 (5) 4,000 mls £12,950
'84 A 900 Turbo 3-dr 10,000 mls £9,950
'84 A 900 4-dr Auto 3,400 mls £8,950
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'83

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AND THIS IS THE RECORD, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 1 St John 5: 11.

BIRTHS

BERTHOM. On April 6th to Alexandra (nee Whitmore) and Mark, a daughter (Arabella Alice).

BRADFORD. – On April 8, 1985, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Francelle (nee White) and Martin – a daughter, a sister for Alexander.

BRAINCH – To Brenda (nee Needs) and Peter on April 11th, a daughter Jessica sister to Harry.

BROADBENT. – On 10th April, to Jane (née Craig) and Hugh, The Vicarage, Cruckham Hill, Kent, a son Christopher Hugh.

BUCHARAN. – On March 31, 1985, to Christiana (née Blackshaw) and Andrew – a daughter (Kate Eleanor) a sister for Robert.

CASSWELL. – on Easter Sunday at St Thomas' Hospital, to Sarah (née Vickers) and Tony, twins, a boy and a girl.

CORBETT. – On 1st April 1985 at Bronovo Hospital, The Hague to Kate (née Jones) and Patrick – a son William Simon.

DACOMBE. On 9th April to Penelope (née Pasford) and Robert; a son (Jack Sebastian William.

DOLEY. –on 8th April in Winchester to Jane (nee Clowe) and Ben a daughter Elizabeth Anne.

DOUWMA. On April 11, 1985, to Harriet Bligh and Robert Douwma, a daughter.

FOX – On April 10, 1985, at Barking Hospital to Carolyn (nee Windsor) and Gareth – a daughter (Emma).

GOLDSMITH. – On April 9, at The Garden Hospital, London, to Amanda (née Gager) and Michael – a son Sebastian James, brother for Alexander and Charlotte.

GOODMAN –on 10th April at Whitley Bay, to Karen and Laurence, a son and to Sylvia and Sydney a grandson.

GUTHRIE. – On April 5, 1985, to Lorna (née Crowther) and Peter – a daughter (Caroline Mary), a sister for Oliver.

HERITAGE. – On March 20, to Alisa (née Higham) and Andrew – a son (George Henry Richard).

HICKMAN –on April 3rd at St Thomas' Hospital to Heather (nee Moffett) and Simon, a son, Thomas Elizabeth Margaret Ruth, a sister for Charles.

EZBURDAK – On April 10th, to Margaret (née Pagkowski) and Manuel, a daughter Annabelle Miriam Redwan-Mevlevi, a sister to Iskender.

LEONARD. – On April 2, at St Helier's Hospital, to Vicki (nee Tudorpole) and Tim – a beautiful daughter (Emily Victoria Florence Anne).

MASON. – On April 3, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Su (née Harpin) and Martin – a daughter (Chloe) Erskine Hones) a sister for Dorothy.

PENNELLS – On Easter Day at Kwazimele, Melmoth, Natal to Helen (née Stone) and Geoffrey, a son, Michael Bukari Cardinon Polycarp, a brother for Rose Miriam and Harry Tegton.

PEPPER on April 2nd to Sara (née Wood) and David a daughter Camilla Alice.

SADI. – On Saturday, April 6, at West London Hospital, to Nawal (née Abdullah) – a son (Sameer) a brother for Kareem.

SCOTT-CLARKE. – On April 6, to Jenny and James – a son (Edward).

TURTLE On April 9th, to Rosemary and Trevor, a daughter, Alice May.

WARD. – On 1st April in Bristol to Jane (née McLean) and Paul – a daughter (Emily Elizabeth Claire), a sister for Matthew and Susanna.

WARNER. – On 28th March at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Penelope (née Davis) and Francis, a daughter: Miranda Sophie Elizabeth.

BIRTHDAYS

MISS NICOLA JANE LLOYD was 18 years old on 11th April 1985 – Look out world, here she comes! XXX.

THE WORLD'S most attractive, intelligent and witty girl, happy birthday. I will love you for ever.

DEATHS

BARMAN – peacefully at All Saints Hospital, Eastbourne, on April 3rd, Elin Angel, aged 77, widow of Thomas Barman O.B.E. (lately diplomatic correspondent B.B.C.), much loved mother of Tom and Peter and grandmother of Kristina, Tanya and Andrew. Funeral 2.30 pm, Monday 15th April, at Alciston Church. Family flowers only, but donations in her memory, if desired, to Alciston Belfry Appeal Fund, c/o Garden Cottage, Alciston, near Polegate, East Sussex BN26 6UW.

BEAUMONT. – On 10 April, after a long illness, Alex, dearly loved wife of Richard Beaumont and loving mother of Carolyn. Funeral Service private at her request. Burial at a Liter date, at Feston Rutland.

BELLORD, MARISA, beloved only child of Marisa (Sellers) and Bob Wrathem-Bellord. Born 14 July 1984. Peacefully on 3 April 1985. Funeral has taken place privately. R.I.P

BIGGIE. – Desmond W. of Harberisford near Totnes, Devon. Beloved husband of Nora, peacefully on April 8, aged 78 years. Dear father of Judy and grandfather of Chris, Vicky and Jonathan. Funeral with the F & O, London. Funeral service at The Roman Catholic Church, Totnes, on Monday, April 15, at 10.45am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation.

BISHOP –on April 10th peacefully at Winchester College in 95th year Violet of Soulmoor, Sleepe Hill, Winchester Hants. Beloved wife of the late Colonel Cilwen Bishop M.C. and much loved mother, grandmother funeral service at East Dean Church on Monday 18th April at 11.30 am.

BLOW – Peter. Beloved husband of Pentime and much loved father of Jane and Sarah of 2, Waite House Green Bothwell. Suddenly on holiday in Spain on April 4 1985 aged 50 years. The funeral will take place on Wednesday, April 17 at 11am at St Aloysius Parish Church, Bellshill. A private cremation will follow. Family flowers only, but donations if desired, to Masonic Charities, c/o William Shepstone & Co Ltd, Old Custom House, Market Place, Hull HU1 1WS.

BOWMAN. – On 9th April 1985, after a long illness borne bravely, David Anthony Paget, aged 48 years. Beloved husband of Valerie and son of Sir John Bowman, Bt. and the late Calstana, step son of Frances and brother of Rachel Clarkson. Funeral Service at 12 noon on Wednesday, 17th April, at St Peter's Church, Weston, nr Abingdon. Flowers or donations, if desired, for "Redwoods" (Netley) Holiday Home for the Disabled, c/o Reeves & Pain, 288 Abingdon Road, Oxford.

BRADSHAW – On 6th April, Ronald Frank, aged 82, peacefully after a short illness, fondly remembered by his family and his many friends. Service of thanksgiving at Christchurch, Rustlet, at 12 noon, Saturday, 4th May.

BRINTON, WILFRED DANVERS, FRCP. – On April 10, at Fort William, husband of Barbara and father of Veronica and Mary.

CHANCE, Anne Esmé Rosamund on 28th March 1985, aged 84, sister of Dorothy, Fergus, Bell and Jack. The funeral, followed by cremation, was on 2nd April at Georgeham, Devon. Memorial service at Sandford to be announced.

COLVIN On 11th April, peacefully in her 91st year Frances Sibyl, widow of Admiral Sir Ragnar Colvin, at Winkenhill, Dorley, Hampshire. Funeral 2 pm Dorley Church, Friday 19th April.

FERGUSON – On 27th March in Estepona, Spain, James, beloved husband of Vi and much loved father of Sheena and Alfie.

FRANKENBURG – On 5th April 1985, peacefully, Cicely Ursula, aged 93, widow of Sydney, mother of Peter, John, Miles and Ursula (Kennedy) Justice of the Peace and Freeman of the City of Salford. Private cremation. Donations may be sent to Family Planning, Margaret Pyke House, 27 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8BQ. Letters to: 32 Hart Street, Henley-on-Thames.

HARDER – on April 10th, suddenly in his 80th year, John Grafton, MA CANTAB FCIS, much loved husband of Audrey, father of Lucinda, father-in-law of Michael and grandfather of Nicholas and Timothy. Funeral servir at Whatlington Church, Wednesday 17th April, 10.30 am. Family flowers only please.

HYMAN on April 10th 1985 peacefully, Bertel. Beloved husband of Lorna, father of Basil and Doreen and father-in-law of Jane. Funeral Willesden Jewish Cemetery 12.30 pm Sunday 14th.

DEATHS

JACK – DAVID Tragically drowned in Bermuda on 24th March. Funeral Service at the Parish Church, Harringworth, North Hants on Thursday 18th April at 2.30 pm. A Memorial Service will be held at St Peter's Church, Black Lion Lane, London W6 on Friday June 14th at noon. No flowers, but donations if so desired to Save The Children Fund.

JONES, Dean Edmund Jones O.S.B., Prior of the Monastery of Christ The King (Cardoxton) and Christ Our Saviour (Turvey), most peacefully on Holy Saturday, April 6. The funeral will take place at Turvey on Tuesday, April 16, at 11.30am. There will be a memorial Eucharist on Saturday, April 20, at The Priory Church, Cockfosters, at 12 noon, and on May 4 at Turvey.

KILPATRICK. – On April 3rd, 1985 peacefully in Banbury, Sarah (née Nicol) in her 95th year, widow of John Auld Kilpatrick and very dear mother of Margaret and Barbara. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held in Compton, Surrey, later.

LEDERER, DR JOSEPH, of London W11, on April 9th 1985, in Delft, Holland. Donations to Amnesty International.

LEE, EILEEN GILHOLME on April 9th, Peacefully at her home, Middle Farm Bath, East Bridgeford, Nottinghamshire. Dearly loved mother of Sally and George and beloved Aunty to Louise, Benjamin and Sophie. Funeral East Bridgeford Parish Church, April 16th, 3.30 pm.

LEONARD. – On April 10 at Lewes, Eileen Mary in her 88th year. Beloved wife of the late Stuart Barlington Leonard, and devoted mother of Mike and Christopher and loved grandmother. Funeral Tuesday afternoon April 16 at Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton.

MYERS. – On April 9, 1985, peacefully in the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Edgar, Brockslide, Ventnight Road, Westbury, Shropshire. Private funeral on Monday, April 15. No flowers by request. Enquiries please to E. J. Francis, Funeral Director, Ishys Forden. Tel: Forden 304, or Welshpool 2697.

NEILL. – On April 10, 1985, peacefully at Abberley Hall, Abberley Edge, Violet Gertrude Neill aged 85 years. Late of Deganwy, beloved wife of the late Eddie Neill, deeply loved by her family and friends. Funeral service Friday, April 12, 1985, at the Macclesfield Crematorium at 9am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Guide dogs for the Blind. All enquiries to Albert R. Black (Funeral Director) Ltd. Tel Wilmslow (0625) 529333.

NICHOLLS DOROTHY de Lancey (née Kendall) on 8th April in Truro Hospital. Enquiries Thomas 0208 2946.

REDMAYNE. – On April 7, suddenly at home, Ann, beloved mother of Cordelia and Clare, loving daughter of Frank Saunders, dearly loved by her sister Gill and brother David, sadly missed. Cremation private on Monday, April 15 at 3 pm. Flowers to Wisdom and Adams, Southam St. Woburn.

RENNIE – On 4th April 1985 in Sutherland Hospital, Shorehead, Henry Kenneth Rennie, Commander R.D.R.N.V.R. retired. Late of Heathfield Court, Chiswick. Sadly missed his family and friends. Service Monday 15th April at Christ Church, Turnham Green, 2.45pm. Cremation to H.D. Tribe Ltd. Worthing 34516.

ROBINSON – On 9th April, peacefully at New Cote, Katherine Gotch, last surviving daughter of Edward Robinson of The Towers, Sneyd Park, Bristol, aged 93. Funeral service at Tyndale Baptist Church, White Ladies Road, Clifton, Bristol, at 12 noon on Monday, 15th April, followed by burial at Stanford. Family flowers only. Enquiries to: Thomas Davis Funeral Directors Ltd, Southville Lodge, Bristol 651965.

TELFER. – At Columbus Church Hospice, Edinburgh, on Sunday, 7th April, 1985, Vera, wife of the late Edmund Telfer, C.A., much loved mother of Charles and Elizabeth and dearest Nonna to all her grandchildren. Service at Christchurch, Holy Corner, Morningside Road, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, 16th April at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, to Cancer Research or Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research. Cremation thereafter private.

WRIGLEY. – On April 6, 1985, in Heathfield, Sussex, Richard Geoffrey Wedgwood aged 76 years. Requiem Mass at the Holy Cross Priory, Cross in Hand, Heathfield on Tuesday, April 16 at 2.30 pm, followed by interment at Waldron. Enquiries to R. Jarvis, funeral directors High St, Cross in Hand. Tel: Heathfield 2933.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

COOL. – There will be a Memorial Service for the late George Cox at All Saints Parish Church, Hove, on Tuesday, 7th May at 11am.

DUNKERLEY. – a service of Thanksgiving for the life of Harvey John Dunkerley will be held at the Church of St John the Baptist, Wickhamford, near Evesham on Saturday, 20th April at 3pm. Donations, if desired, to the Church of St John the Baptist, Wickhamford.

WILSON. – A memorial service will be held for Colonel Henry James (Jock) Wilson at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, London SW1 on Wednesday, May 15, at 12.30 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

BOTTOMLEY – Donald, April 12th 1975. In loving memory from Felicia, Jane and Prue. So greatly missed.

KING – Trevor, John, died 12th April, 1983. Remembered with love today and always by his wife and children.

KNIGHTLY remembering Freddie who died April 12th, 1982. So sadly missed by us all.

McCAFFERTY MARRIAGE (nee Murphy-O'Connor) 12th April 1984. Sadly missed by husband, family and friends, you are loved.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BICE. – John Burgess L.L.B., Pam, Kirsty and Fraser wish to thank most sincerely all friends, professional colleagues, relatives and neighbours for the overwhelming and generous expressions of sympathy, beautiful floral tributes and donations received during their recent and sudden tragic loss. Pam, Kirsty and Fraser are particularly grateful to Mr Geoffrey Booth (Senior partner), Mr Dennis W. Westbrook (Consultant) and staff of Westbrook Ince and Co., solicitors Hyde & Denton for their extreme kindness and tremendous support and to staff of coronary care unit, Thameside General Hospital, for their dedicated attention on many occasions and to the Rev A. McCormick for his exceptional comforting ministration and to all friends and professional colleagues who join them for the funeral service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM.

6.50 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Nick Ross. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55 and 9.18; regional news, weather and travel at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 7.20, 7.45 and 8.20; pop video review at 7.32; consumer report at 8.15; and Glyn Worsnip's diary at 8.37. Plus, a preview of the weekend' events; shopping advice; and a 'phone-in gardening clinic.

9.20 Battle of the Planets. **9.40** The Monkees (r). **10.05** Why Don't You . . . ? Children from Belfast with alternative ideas to watching television all day. **10.30** Play School.

10.50 Bonanza. Little Joe and Hoss receive a lesson in horse trading (r). **11.40** Rites of the Butterfly. A delightful documentary celebrating the coming of spring. The narrator is Hugh David (r).

12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. The weather details come from Ian McCaskill. **12.57** Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles).

1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes advice on buying a pony and the equipment to go with it. **1.45** Hokey Cokey. (r).

2.00 Film: Without Reservations" (1946) starring John Wayne and Claudette Colbert. Romantic comedy about a successful writer, on the way to Hollywood to supervise the filming of one of her books, who discovers the ideal leading man in the shape of a happy-go-lucky marine. Directed by Mervyn Leroy. **3.45** Cartoon. Tom and Jerry (r). **3.53** Regional news.

3.55 Whizz. A new series of puzzle games. **4.10** Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon version.

4.15 The Littlest Hobo. A new series of adventures starring a German shepherd dog. **4.40** Secrets Outlit! Odd hobbies are guessed by a young panel. The guest is Roy Castle. **5.05** The Red Hand Gang. Episode three (r).

5.30 Friday People. Show business magazine programme presented by Mike Smith. Among those featured in today's edition are Spandau Ballet and Lord Lichfield.

6.00 News with Nicholas Witchell and Jeremy Paxman. Weather.

6.35 London Plus.

7.00 Wogan. The guests include David Gower, Barbara Dickson and super-slimmer Belinda Charlton.

7.40 Odd One Out. Paul Daniels presents another programme in the series in which contestants have to discover which piece of music, painting or object is out of place.

8.10 Cover Up. The first of a new series of adventures involving a fashion photographer and her male assistant who work undercover for a United States government agency (Ceefax).

9.00 News with Julia Somerville. Weather.

9.25 Late Starter. Episode five and Edward has a drink with a new tenant in the house where he has a bed-sit and decides to apply for the job of part-time barman.

10.15 Paisley . . . Child of Wrath . . . Man of God. A profile of the controversial Northern Ireland politician and hell-fire preacher (see Choice).

11.05 Film: Every Little Crook and Nanny (1972) starring Lynn Redgrave and Victor Mature. When the "Mob" oust Miss Poole from her School of Etiquette and Dance she decides to kidnap the gang boss's child for revenge. Directed by Cy Howard.

12.35 Weather.

TV-am

6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Anne Diamond and Henry Kelly. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.16, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.56; sport at 6.30 and 7.37; exercises at 6.50 and 8.50; consumer news at 7.15; Popeye cartoon at 7.24; pop video at 7.54; Jeni Barnett's postbag at 8.18; Jimmy Greaves's television highlights at 8.40; Roland Rat at 9.00. The guest is Antony Hopkins.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street. **10.25** Children of Hong Kong. A profile of a family who live on a junk moored in the island's Aberdeen harbour. **10.35** Yvonne Hudson – Sculptor. A farmer's wife delights in serving God through sculpture. **11.05** Fabulous Funnies. Cartoons.

11.30 About Britain. Clive Gunnell continues his journey along the River Parrett, Somerset's longest river, and joins in the Bridgwater Carnival celebrations.

12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch help Mr Boo find his missing mountain (r). **12.10** Rainbow. Learning with puppets. Dancing is today's subject (Oracle). **12.30** The Luck of Roaring Camp. A lawless mining town in the 1850s calms down when the only woman resident gives birth to a baby boy.

1.00 News at One with Leonard Parkin. Weather. **1.20** Thames news.

1.30 Film: Where There's A Will" (1955) starring George Cole and Kathleen Harrison. Comedy about a Cockney family who inherit a run-down farm in Devon. Directed by Vernon Sewell. **3.00** Gems. More drama from the fashion workshop. **3.25** Thames news headlines. **3.30** Sons and Daughters.

4.00 Rainbow. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. **4.20** Batfink tangles with Greasy Gus. **4.25** Emu's All-Live Pink Windmill Show.

5.15 Blockbusters.

5.45 News. **6.00** The 6 O'Clock Show.

7.00 The Practice. Drama serial set in a modern medical centre in the north of England (Oracle).

7.30 Family Fortunes. Game show, presented by Max Bygraves.

8.00 A Fine Romance. Romantic comedy series starring real-life married team of Michael Williams and Judi Dench as a couple whose romance is always going off the boil (r) (Oracle).

8.30 C.A.T.S. Eyes. A feature length episode to introduce the heroines of the Covert Activities Thames Section, a trio of ladies ostensibly a seaside detective agency but in fact a secret government security unit. (Oracle).

10.00 News at Ten and weather.

10.30 The London Programme: The City of Winners and Losers. To celebrate the first decade of reporting on the current affairs of the capital the programme examines what has happened to London and Londoners since the series began. Presented by John Taylor.

11.15 Shoot Pool! Jim Rosenthal introduces the first match in this year's John Bull Bitter London Pool Championship from The Forum, Kentish Town. A qualifier, Andy Lindsay, meets the 1983 professional champion, Andy "The Greek" Loppas.

12.15 Film: Dracula (1973) starring Jack Palance. A London solicitor visits the sinister Count Dracula at his castle in Transylvania and wishes he hadn't. Directed by Dan Curtis.

1.55 Night Thoughts.

Ian Paisley: a profile on BBC 1 at 10.15pm

CHOICE

● After his two fulminatory decades in pulpit and on platform, with the media recording every other flash of lightning, you would be foolish to expect any new disclosures in Peter France's inquiry PAISLEY: CHILD OF WRATH, MAN OF GOD (BBC1 10.15pm). And, sure enough, there aren't any. Mr France's brief is to examine other concerns such as the impact of Mr Paisley's tub-thumping pronouncements on his devoted followers, religious more than political (though how can you tell the one from the other in the Northern Ireland context?). In interview, Peter France does not allow the Ulsterman to get away with very much, but this modern-day Daniel is fortunate in that his lion is not in a roaring mood. Two of Mr France's points, however, might have been better put to Mr Paisley than to the cameraman. Why should the scourge of the Vatican claim infallibility for himself when he denies it to the Pope? And is there not something innately unChristian about erecting an anti-contamination fence around one's own beliefs if it prevents you from understanding those of people on the other side of it?

● RICHMOND PARK (BBC2, 9.00pm) is Laura Gavshon's utterly charming essay about the two-and three-legged creatures that enjoy the 2,500 acres from which Henry VIII liked to survey his royal river. The park is now the vantage point from which South African ladies survey a misty, distant St Paul's and gloomily wonder what will happen if The Bomb falls. Strange things can happen in Richmond Park. Old soldiers can suddenly leap from their wheelchairs and send the deer bolting with a blast from the bagpipes; and golf-practising taxi-drivers agree to be photographed while surreptitiously dodging household chores.

● LEAVING THE WORLD A CLEANER PLACE (Radio 3, 7.55pm), Simon Rees's pleasantly academic survey of 1930s thriller writers, puts Auden and his poem *The Orators* at the top of his list. In a telling phrase, Mr Rees reminds us of the poem's images, seen from the corner of the eye, and of its suggested catastrophes that are more frisson-causing than anything in Buchan, Dornford Yates or Sapper.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

9.30 Open University: Hogarth's Paintings. **6.55** Neurophysiology. **7.20** Weekend Outlook. Ends at 7.25.

9.00 Ceefax.

10.30 World Snooker. The first of five visits of the day to the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, where the opening matches in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship are in play. Among those in action this morning are the number one seed and holder of the title, Steve Davis, against Neil Foulds, and the number two seed, Tony Knowles, who means J. Jones. David Vine and David Icke introduce coverage of the first nine-frames of the best of 19 frame matches. The commentators are Ted Lowe, Jack Karnehm and Clive Everton.

12.30 Ceefax.

2.30 Snooker Break. The latest news of the championships plus viewers questions and requests about the tournament.

3.00 World Snooker. Further action from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, in the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship.

5.25 News summary with subtitles. Weather.

5.30 Eureka. A lighthearted look at the invention of a number of everyday things, including, this week, liquorice allsorts, coia and the pop-up toaster, presented by Paul MacDowell. Among those appearing in the dramatic reconstruction of the historic events are Sylvester McCoy, Bernard Holley, Mike Savage, Julia Binsted and Jacqueline Clarke.

6.00 Film: Kiss Me Kate (1953) starring Kathryn Grayson, Ann Miller and Howard Keel. Lavish musical version of Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew, with words and music by Cole Porter. Directed by George Sidney.

7.45 World Snooker. The Embassy World Championship from The Crucible Theatre, Sheffield.

8.35 Gardeners' World from the Droitwich, Worcestershire, garden of Clifford and Jane Bingham, designed for all year round interest. Presented by Geoff Hamilton and Clay Jones.

9.00 Just Another Day. John Pilman wanders around the royal Richmond Park, 2,500 acres of green space on the edge of London (see Choice).

9.30 Around With Alliss. Peter Alliss plays a few holes of the Formby Golf Club, Liverpool, with the Earl of Derby, president of both the Professional Golfers' Association and the Rugby League (Ceefax).

10.00 World Snooker.

10.30 Newsnight. **11.15** Weather.

11.20 World Snooker. Highlights and results from the first day of the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship, introduced by David Vine. Ends at 12.15.

CHANNEL 4

2.30 Master Bridge. Round ten of the individual bridge tournament in which competitors change partners after every round. (r).

3.00 All The Rivers Run. The final episode of the romantic drama set in New South Wales at the turn of the century. Dalie decamps to Melbourne to see if there is a market for her paintings while husband Brenton stays behind in Echuca with the burnt-out hulk of the Philadelphia (r).

4.50 E. F. Benson in Brixton. A preview of the new five-part series, based on the Mapp and Lucia novels of E. F. Benson, which begins on Sunday.

5.10 Cartoon Carnival. A selection presented by Ray Alan.

5.30 The Friday Zone. A new series begins with ECT, a 40 minute spectacular for Heavy Metal fans, featuring Lords of the New Church, Magnum, Madam X and Motorhead.

6.10 Paintbox: Interlude. A combination of exotic images and new music as a very up-dated version of the old potter's wheel interlude.

6.20 Soul Train, the first soul music television show on British television, introduced by Jeffrey Daniel. This evening features Millie Jackson, Loose Ends and Cashmere.

7.00 Channel Four News and weather.

7.30 Right to Reply. The Green Line, the two part documentary about the partition of Cyprus, is accused by Turkish viewers of distorting the facts.

8.00 What the Papers Say. The Economist's Michael Elliott examines how the Press has treated the week's news.

8.15 The Jazz Tap Ensemble. The talented group from California perform at London's Riverside Studios.

9.00 The Cosby Show. Cliff Huxtable is having trouble with his daughter who is obsessed with the clarinet. With Dizzy Gillespie.

9.30 The Great Plant Collections. Part one of a nine-programme exploration of the plant collections in the British Isles is from Caerhays Castle, Cornwall. Roy Lancaster admires one of the world's greatest collections of camellias and magnolias.

10.00 Cheers. American comedy series set in a Boston bar.

10.30 The Single Life. A new four-part series that presents portraits of a number of people who live on their own. This opening programme includes a teenager, a musician, a priest, and a journalist and broadcaster.

11.20 Film: Long Shot (black and white and colour) (1979) starring Charles Gormley and Neville Smith as a pair of optimistic film makers trying to find financial backing at the 1977 Edinburgh Film Festival. Directed by Maurice Hatton.

12.50 Closedown.

Radio 4

On long wave. † Also VHF stereo.

5.55 Shipping. **6.00** News Briefing: Weather. **6.10** Farming. **6.25** Prayer.

6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. **6.45** Business News. **6.55, 7.55** Weather. **7.00, 8.00** News. **7.25, 8.25** Sport. **7.45** Thought for the Day. **8.35** Letters.

8.43 Griff Rhys Jones reads Roald Dahl: 'Boy: Tales of Childhood'. **8.57** Weather; Travel.

9.00 News.

9.05 Desert Island Discs. The castaway is Doris Stokes, the medium (r).†

9.45 More Wrestling than Dancing. David Moreau's unsuccessful attempts to come to grips with life: 'A Question of Gender'.

10.00 News; International Assignment.

10.30 Morning Story: 'The Art is the Thing' by Mark Bourne'. Reader: Robert Rietty.

10.45 Daily Service. (New Every Morning, page 50).†

11.00 News; Travel; Mr Midshipman Clark. The story of one man's experiences in Nelson's navy(r).

11.48 Natural Selection: Toots of the Trade.

12.00 News; The Food Programme. Smoked Foods. Presented by Derek Cooper.

12.27 Instant Sunshine. 'Reasonably Together Again'.† **12.55** Weather.

1.00 The World at One: News.

1.40 The Archers. **1.55** Shipping.

2.00 News; The tenor they called the Lancashire Caruso. A profile of Tom Burke, presented by Stephen Thorne (r).

2.47 Thames Maru to Tokyo: (5), with Alun Richards.

3.00 News; Micah Clarke by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (2): 'The Perilous Journey' with Patrick Troughton, Martyn Read, and Simon Ward.† (r).

4.00 News; Going Places. Clive Jacobs's world of travel and transport.

4.40 Story Time: 'A Gun for Sale' by Graham Green (10). Reader: Aubrey Woods.

5.00 PM: News Magazine. **5.50** Shipping. **5.55** Weather.

6.00 The Six O'Clock News; Financial Report.

6.30 In One Ear. Lively comedy.

7.00 News.

7.05 The Archers.

7.20 Pick of the Week. Margaret Howard's TV and radio extracts.†

8.20 Stop Press. Nigel Rees examines the way the newspapers have behaved this week.

8.45 Any Questions? from Bradworthy, North Devon. With David Penhaligon, Baroness Phillips, Jeffrey Archer, George Davies, and John Timpson.†

9.45 Kaleidoscope. Includes comment on Three Sisters at Royal Exchange, Manchester, and Michael Arlen's Say Goodbye to Sam.

10.15 A Book at Bedtime: 'The Magic Toyshop' by Angela Carter (10). Reader: Lynn Farleigh. **10.29** Weather.

10.30 The World Tonight, incl **11.00** Headlines.

11.15 The Financial World Tonight.

11.30 Week Ending. Satirical review.

12.00 News; Weather. **12.33** Shipping. VHF (available in England and S Wales) Radio 4 VHF is as above except: 5.55-6.00 am Weather; Travel. 1.55-2.00 pm Listening Corner. 5.50-5.55 PM (continued). 11.00-12.00 Study on 4. 11.00 Big Band. 11.45 Finger and Thumb Keep Moving. Exploring ways of making accompaniments more interesting.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. **7.00** News.

7.05 Morning Concert: Purcell's suite Abdelazar (ECO/Leppard); Holborne's The Night Watch; Fairy Round, etc (Lindberg, flute); Victoria's motet Vidi speciosam (Westminster Cathedral Choir); Frescobaldi's Aria detta Balletto (Hogwood, virginal); Vivaldi's Violin Concerto RV 277 (London Vivaldi Orchestra/Huggett, violin). †8.00 News.

8.05 Boyce's Symphony No 2 in A (Academy of St Martin-in-Fields/Marriner); Bach's Toccata in D, BWV 912 (Gould, piano); Beethoven's Symphony No 4 (Bavarian State Orchestra/Kleiber). **10.00** News.

9.05 This Week's Composer: Mozart. Sonata in A minor K 310 (Lipatti, piano); Violin Sonata in E minor K 304 (Shumsky/Balsam); Symphony No 31 (Academy of Ancient Music/Hogwood); Popoli di Tessaglia, K 316 (Gruberova, soprano).†

10.00 Berg, Zemlinsky, Schumann: Jean-Jacques Dunki (piano). Berg's Sonata Op 1; Zemlinsky's Vier Fantasien uber Gedichte von Richard Dehmel; Schumann's Impromptus uber ein Thema von Clara Wieck, Op 5.†

10.50 Langham Chamber Orchestra (under Lubbock). Tippett's Divertimento on Sellinger's Round, and variations on the round by other composers including Britten and Walton.†

11.30 Songs by Finzi, Gounod, Strauss with Meirwyn Davies (tenor). Iain Ledingham (piano). †

12.05 Midday Concert: Royal Liverpool Philharmonic (under Groves) with Liverpool Philharmonic Choir and Barry Douglas, piano. Part one. Mendelssohn's overture Ruy Blas. Schumann's Piano Concerto. †1.00 News.

1.05 Concert: Part two. Vaughan Williams's Sinfonia Antartica (Cathryn Pope, soprano).†

1.55 Sax and Piano: John Harle (sax) and John Lenehan. Ned Rorem's Picnic on the Marne; and his arrangement of the Bach-attributed Sonata in G minor; David Heath's Romania.†

2.30 J C Bach: Overture A Birthday Ode for King Charles III of Spain; Flute Concerto in D; motet Si nocte tenebrosa; Symphony in F Op 8 No 4. Sandra Dugdale (soprano), David Butt (flute), London Bach Orchestra.†

3.30 Hapsichord Music by Francesco Durante: David Roblous's recital includes the Sonates No 1 in G minor and No 8 in B flat.†

4.00 Choral Evensong: From the Chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge.†**4.55** News.

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Another of Alan Sykes's selections of music.†

6.30 Music for Guitar: Timothy Walker plays works by himself (African Light Suite), and Reginald Smith, and arrangements by Walker of Beethoven and Bach.

7.00 Messiaen a Cappella: BBC Singers (under Joly) perform Cinq Rechants for 12 solo voices; O Sacrum Convivium.†

7.30 BBC SO (under Pritchard). With Jean-Philippe Collard, piano. Part one. Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 1.†

7.55 Leaving the World a Cleaner Place: Simon Rees on thriller writers of the 1930s, including Buchan and Sapper.

8.15 Concert: Part two. Shostakovich's Symphony No 11.†

9.25 The Reversible Mackintosh: Another chance to hear Stephen Games's documentary about Charles Rennie Mackintosh, once Glasgow's leading architect (r).

10.10 Kate Kelly's Road Show. With Edward Cowie's music. With Fiona Kim (mezzo) as the sister of the Australian outlaw, and with Lontano.†

10.30 The Professor's Bust: Brett Usher reads the short story by Fred Uhlman.

11.00 Beethoven Piano Sonatas: Alfred Brendel plays the Sonata in G major Op 79; Sonata in C minor Op 10 No 1; and in G major Op 31 No 1.†

11.57 News. **12.00** Closedown. VHF only: Open University. **6.35** am to **6.55**. Open Forum: Students' magazine.

Radio 2

News on the hour (except **8.00pm** and **9.00**). Headlines **5.30am, 6.30, 7.30** and **8.30. 4.00am** Howard Pearce†. **6.00** Ray Moore†. **8.05** Ken Bruce†. **10.30** Jimmy Young†. **1.05pm** Sports Desk; David Jacobs†. **2.00** Gloria Hunniford†incl **2.02, 3.02** Sports Desk. **3.30** Music All The Way†. **4.00** Steve Jonesfinci **4.02, 5.05** Sports Desk. **6.00** John Dunnfinci **6.02** Sports Desk; **6.45** Sport and Classified Results (MF) only. **7.30** Friday Night Is Music Night including **8.20-8.40** Interval. Peter Pratt and friends recall happy memories. **9.30** The Organist Entertains. With Nigel Ogden. **9.55** Sports Desk. **10.00** It's A Funny Business (Arthur English). **10.30** Lyrics On Several Occasions. With André Previn. **11.00** Jeremy Beadle's Nightcap. **1.00am** Steve Madden presents Nightrider†. **3.00** Big Band Special†. **3.30-4.00** String Sound†.

Radio 1

On medium wave, talso VHF stereo. News on the half hour from **5.30am** until **9.30pm** and at **12 midnight. 6.00am** Adrian John. **8.00** Mike Read. **10.00** Simon Bates. **12.00** Gary Davies incl **12.30** pm Newsbeat. **2.30** Mark Page. **4.30** Select-A-Disc. **5.30** Newsbeat. **5.45** Roundtable (special guests The Thompson Twins). **7.00** Andy Peebles. **10.00-12.00** The Friday Rock Show (Pet Hate)†. VHF Radios 1 & 2 **4.00am** With Radio 2. **10.00pm** With Radio 1. **12.00-4.00am** With Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

5.00 Newsdesk. **7.00** World News. **7.09** Twenty-Four Hours. **7.30** Land of a Thousand Dances. **7.45** Merchant Navy Programme. **8.00** World News. **8.09** Reflections. **8.15** Shakespeare and Music. **8.30** A Bach Celebration. **9.00** World News. **9.09** Review of the British Press. **9.15** The World Today. **9.30** Financial News. **9.40** Look Ahead. **9.45** At Home With . . . **10.00** News Summary. **10.01** Short Takes. **10.30** Business Matters. **11.00** World News. **11.09** News About Britain. **11.15** In The Meantime. **12.00** Radio Newsreel. **12.15** Jazz For The Asking. **12.45** Sports Roundup. **1.00** World News. **1.09** Twenty Four Hours. **1.30** John Peel. **2.00** News Summary. **2.45** Letterbox. **3.00** Radio Newsreel. **3.15** The Pasternak Papers. **4.00** World News. **4.09** Commentary. **4.15** Science in Action. **4.45** The World Today. **5.00** World News. **5.09** Sarah And Company. **5.40** Book Choice. **5.50** World News. **9.15** Music Now. **9.45** Goldfinger. **10.00** World News. **10.09** The World Today. **10.25** Book Choice. **10.30** Financial News. **10.40** Reflections. **10.45** Sports Roundup. **11.00** World News. **11.09** Commentary. **11.15** From The Weeklies. **11.30** Sacred Symphonies. **12.00** World News. **12.09** News about Britain. **12.15** Radio Newsreel. **12.30** About Britain. **12.45** Recording of the Week. **1.00** News Summary **1.01** Outlook. **1.30** Kings of Swing **1.45** Letterbox. **2.00** World News. **2.09** Review of the British Press. **2.15** Network UK. **2.30** People and Politics. **3.00** World News. **3.09** News About Britain. **3.15** The World Today **3.30** Brain of Britain 1985. **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** That's Trad **5.45** The World Today.

All times in GMT

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

TSW As London except: 10.25 am Standby . . . Lights, Camera, Action. 11.15-11.30 Carving Out a Legend. 12.30-1.00 Coping. 1.20 pm News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Nearest and Dearest (Hylda Baker). 3.30-4.00 Adventurer. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 Today South West 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead. 10.35 Film: Two Mules for Sister Sara (Shirley MacLaine).

ANGLIA As London except: 10.25 am Cartoon. 10.40 Spread Your Wings. 11.10-11.30 Fireball XL5. 12.30 pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 News. 1.30-3.00 Film:Green Grow the Rushes (Richard Burton). 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 11.10 Film: The National Health (Jim Dale). 12.55 am Resurrection and Me.

CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am Little House On The Prairie. 10.15 Chance To Meet. 10.25 Standby, Lights, Camera, Action. 11.15-11.30 Carving Out A Legend. 12.30pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Nearest and Dearest. 5.15-5.45 Young Doctors. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Crossroads. 6.55-7.00 What's On Where. 10.35 Film: Two Mules for Sister Sarah.

ULSTER As London except: 10.25am Once Upon A Time . . . Man. 10.50 Professor Kitzel. 11.00 Short Story Theatre. 11.25-11.30 Cartoon. 12.30pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 Lunchtime. 1.30 Film: Anne of the Indies (Jean Peters). 3.00 Protectors. 3.30-4.00 Game. 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.20 Sportscast. 6.45-7.00 Advice with Anna Halles. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Falcon Crest. 11.30 Barney Miller. 11.55 News, Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: 9.25 am Once Upon a Time . . . Man. 9.50 Poseidon Files. 10.45 History of Grand Prix. 11.05-11.30 Fireball XL5. 12.30 pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 Granada Reports. 1.30-3.00 Film: Beachcomber (Glynis Johns). 3.30-4.00 Young Doctors. 5.15-5.45 Vintage Quiz. 6.00 Sons and Daughters. 6.30-7.00 Granada Reports. 10.30 Benson. 11.00 Rugby League. 11.55 Film: Witchfinder General (Vincent Price). 1.35 am Closedown.

HTV WEST As London except: 9.25am Soup For President. 9.50 Gather Your Dreams. 10.15 Indian Legends of Canada. 10.40 Mysteries, Myths & Legends. 11.05-11.30 Silver Spoons 12.30pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 News. 1.30-3.00 Film: Nearest and Dearest (Hylda Baker). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Problems. 10.30 Your Say. 10.45 Scene '85. 11.15 Kojak. 12.15am Live At City Hall.

HTV WALES As HTV West except: 6.00pm-7.00 Wales At Six. 11.00 Kojak. 12.00-12.30am Live At City Hall.

S4C Starts: 1.00pm Silents Please. 1.25 Farming On 4. 2.00 5 Lon Goch. 2.15 Painting the Warmth of the Sun. 3.15 Film: Gracie Allen Murder Case*. 1939 thriller. 4.45 Hanner Awr Fwy. 5.30 Extra Celestial Transmission: Heavy metal concert. 6.20 Soul Train. 7.00 Newyddion Saith. 7.25 Rygbi: XV Undeb Y Gorllewin v Sbein. 8.25 Y Byd Yn Ei Le. 9.40 Cheers. 10.10 Birth of a Nation. 11.40 Jazz Tap Ensemble. 12.20am Book Four. 12.50 Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: starts 9.25-9.30 North East news. 10.25 Indian Legends of Canada. 10.50 The New Fantastic Four 11.15-11.30 Cartoon Time. 12.30-1.00 Coping. 1.20 North East news. 1.30-3.00 Film: The Blue Parrott (Dermot Walsh). Murder mystery. 3.25-3.30 North East news. 5.15-5.45 Who's the Boss. 6.00 North East news. 6.02 Keep It In the Family. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 10.32 Straight Talk. 11.00 TX:45. 11.45 Three's Company. 11.50 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE As London except: 10.25am Gather Your Dreams. 10.50 Cop and the Kid. 11.15-11.30 Abigail. 12.9 pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 Calendar. 1.25 Help Yourself. 1.30 Film: Court Martial of Major Keller*. 2.55-3.00 Home Cookery Club. 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 10.30 Police Squad. 11.00 Rugby League. 11.55 Mannix.

GRAMPIAN As London except: 10.25 Island Wildlife. 11.15-11.30 World's Children. 12.30pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 News. 1.30 Vintage Quiz. 2.00-3.00 Falcon Crest. 5.15-5.45 Cartoon Alphabet. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight and Area Weather Forecast. 10.30 Crossfire. 11.00 Ice Hockey. 12.00 News, Closedown.

SCOTTISH As London except: 10.25 am-11.30 Poseidon Files. 12.30 pm-1.00 Coping. 1.20 News. 1.30 Country Practice. 2.30-3.00 On the Market. 6.00 News and Scotland Today. 6.30-7.00 Now You See It. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Yellow Rose. 12.05 am Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN

† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat

ENTERTAINMENTS

☎ 01-837 1234 extn. 7593

CC Mail credit cards accepted for telephone bookings at the box office. When telephoning use prefix 01 only when outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't, Thur 7.30 FIDELIO. Tomor, Wed 7.30 THE BARTERED BRIDE. Also Booking: The Marriage of Figaro, Madam Butterfly, The Mikadoo, Marriage, Aida, Albatross. CC Ticketmaster 01-379 6219.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE COVENT GARDEN. Resv: 01-240 1066/1911. Access, Visa. Diners Club. S. Standby seats £1-£6 95(S. 10am-8pm Mon-Sat). 65 special seats avail from 10am on the day (except Mon & Wed).
THE ROYAL OPERA
Ton't 6.30, Mon, Wed 6.00 (TV footballing) (English National Opera/Thompson) Don Carlo. Tomor, Tue 7.30, Lucia di Lammermoor.

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 Last 3 Perfs: Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 BALLET DE MONTREAL London debut season. Music by Bruch and Delibes. NEXT WK: MERCE CUNNINGHAM & CO. 278 0855 for Theatre-par & future bkg. Grp Sales 930 6123

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL Barbican Centre EC2. 01-628 8795/638 8891. No perf ton't. Tomor 7.45 MENUHIN BACH. English Chamber Orchestra. Yehudi Menuhin conductor. Well back chos Camore Jose-luis Garcia violin: BACH. Sun 7.30 Gala Film Night. Tribute to David Lean. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Maurice Jarre conds. The concert features the themes of David Lean's major films.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191) CC 928 8800 Tonight 7.30 pm BBC Symphony Orchestra. Jean-Philippe Collard, Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 1. Shostakovich: Symphony No. 11.

WIGMORE HALL Box Office/CC 935 2141. SOUNDS OF SWEDEN Tonight 7.30pm. Royal Court Singer Kerstin Meyer introduces four young Swedish singers HILLEVI MARTINSON soprano, MARIA HOGLIND mezzo-soprano, BONNY WALLENSTIN tenor, URBAN MALMBERG baritone, accompanied by Bastel, Verdi, Weill, Brandon, Sjorgren, von Koch, Petersson-Berger etc.

THEATRES

ADELPHI 836 7611 cc 240 7911/24 CC 741 9999/836 7358. Grp sales 930 6123. NATIONAL WILL BECOME THE KING OF THE WEST. B Eve THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL ME AND MY GIRL ROBERT LINDSAY "An Absolutely Inspired Performance" S Times

ALDWYCH THEATRE 01-836 6404/0641. cc 379 6233. Evenings 7.30. Mats Wed 2.30, Sat 4.00 & 8.00 PAUL EDDINGTON & SIMON CADELL in TOM STOPPARD'S JUMPERS with ANNE BACON Directed by PETER WOOD

AMBASSADORS 836 6111 CC 741 9999. Group Sales 930 6123. Last 3 perfs Ton't & Tomor 3.30 & 8.30. LITTLE THEATRE OF COMEDY KELLY MONTEITH IN ONE

APOLLO THEATRE Shaftesbury Ave W1 cc 01-437 2663. 01-434 3598 Rest price from Sales 930 6123. Opens May 1st at 7.00 JACK GILFORD in LOOK TO THE RAINBOW The Musical History of Vic Fontana "A joyous night out" Guardian. Mon-Fri 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0 Sats 5.0 & 8.15. Group Sales 01-930 6123.

APOLLO VICTORIA 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Grp Sales 930 6123 STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE TREVOR NUNN "A MIRACLE THAT ALMOST ANYTHING ABOUT IN EVERY WAY" D Exp Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 BOX OFFICE OPEN 10am-8pm A limited number of seats available for Tue Mat limited to 2 per person. Some £2 standing room tickets are available 2 hr before every performance for the unwaged and students

ARCADIA THEATRE 01-836 6445/6446 Grp Sales 930 6123 Last 3 perfs Ton't 8.15, Tomor 5.0 & 8.15. Susan Wooldridge, Maryann Wyatt in Ben Travers' 1930 farce Marina Notman. "a well nigh perfect piece of work" D. Tel. "A remarkable play, profound and perilous. splendid performance" T. Out.

BARBICAN THEATRE 628 8795/638 8891 (Mon-Sat 10am-8pm). Fee for hotel package 01-330 7111 ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY BARBICAN THEATRE HAMLET previews ton't 7.30, tomor 2.00 & 7.30. Tickets available from late May. Day seats from 10am. THE PLAY PARTY by Trevor Griffiths "a riveting revival" S Times ton't 7.30pm, tomor 2.00 & 7.30. Grp sales 628 8601

BUSH THEATRE 743 3388. Closed Mad by Erik Bergman. Tues-Sun 8pm.

CABARET PIECADILLY. Dinner 8.0. LAST GOOD OLD CHARLIE Ton't 11 & Sat 11pm. BOUNCING CZECKS A The Greatest Show on Legs. Admission £8. Membership Free.

COMEDY 930 2578. CC 839 1438 Eves 8.0. Fri & Sat 6 and 8.45 MONSTER MUSICAL HIT LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS 2nd SOUTH BANK YEAR "I LOVED IT - HOPE IT RUNS FOR 1,000 YEARS" Time Out. SEATS AT BOX OFFICE PRICES £5-£9 Group Sales Box Office 930 6123

CRITERION. S 930 3216. CC 379 6565/379 6433/741 9999. Group 836 3962. Eves 8.0. Mats Thurs 2.30. Sat 5.30 & 8.30. "BRITISH FARCE AT ITS BEST" The Theatre of Comedy Company IN THE WEAK END

DUKE OF YORKS 836 5122 CC 836 9837/379 6433. Grp Sales 930 6123. Eves 8. Mat Thu & Sat 5.30. "Hilarious" ON TAP. Evs tue STEPPING OUT The 5th Comedy by Richard Harris Directed by JAMES ROOSE-EVANS IN THIS WEAK END COMEDY OF THE YEAR 1984 "A joyous, skilful, silly T. Out Had the first night audience yelling for more" D Mail. "Hilarious comedy" Sun Times. "It's going to be big, big, big" NOW. "A Small Masterpiece" Sun Express. "Hilarious comedy . . . A GREAT TIME" B.B.C.

DONMAR WAREHOUSE Earlham St, WC2. 836 5808 cc 379 6565/6433. Eves 7.30. Wed Mats 2.30. Sats 4.0. THE WOOSTER PLAYHOUSE TRUST Presents SPELL No. 7 by Nicholas Kemp

FORTUNE S. 836 2238 cc Eves 8.00. Fri & Sat 6.00 & 8.30. THIS YEAR'S COMEDY OF THE YEAR Laurence Olivier Awards 1984 UP 'N' UNDER "Splendid . . . Unusual and even unique" D.Tel. "One of the funniest and best production plays you are ever going to see in the West End . . . Totally irresistible" Gdn. "Exclusive and hilarious . . . Persuading the audience to clap and cheer" S.Tel. "Wonderfully funny . . . Super Show" N.O.W.

GARRICK S CC 01-836 4601. Eves 8.00. Wed Mat 3.00. Sat 5.00 & 8.00. LAUGH UNTIL YOU CRY WITH THE MOST HYSTERICAL YEAR LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WORLD NO SEX, PLEASE – WE'RE BRITISH 2 HOURS OF NON-STOP LAUGHTER Directed by Allan Davis CC 379 6565. Group Sales 01-930 6123 OVER 6,500 PERFORMANCES

GLOBE cc 01-437 1592. Andrew Lloyd Webber presents the COMEDY OF THE YEAR Society of West End Theatre Award '85 DAISY PULLS IT OFF by Denise Deegan DIRECTED BY JAMES MACDONALD "ABSOLUTELY BEWITCHING" D Tel "FULL MARKS FOR DAISY" Std "A gold star to Daisy for a

Reagan backs his SDI, a strong $ and link with Britain

In his interview with Nicholas Ashford, Our Washington Correspondent, to mark *The Times'* bicentenary, President Reagan appeared to harden his position on American reluctance to intervene in international currency markets. It would only do so where it might help to counter disorderly markets, he said.

Q. – Do you think that a summit meeting between yourself and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the new Soviet leader, could be a turning point in US-Soviet relations?

A. I don't know whether you could say that, because there have been summit meetings before. I would look on it as an opportunity to clear the air and express our desire to have a relationship that would eliminate this great threat that seems to hang over the world. I would also hope it could help in the negotiations that are going on in Geneva.

And very frankly, I'd like to speak to him to clear up some things, like the kind of tragedy with our officer (who was shot by a Soviet sentry) in Germany. Those things are so senseless. There's no need for them. But I don't know that you could see it as a turning point. After all, Mr Gorbachov has been for four years a member of the Politburo, 14 years a member of the party council.

So we know that the Soviet Government really is a collective – the Politburo has the ultimate authority. So I can't see that, as some speculated, there would be a great change of direction. It would only come about if that was the desire of the Politburo.

How concerned are you by the Soviet Union's attempt to drive a wedge between the US and its Nato allies by its bitter opposition to your strategic defence initiative – the SDI?

The very nature of our democratic and open societies insures that there will always be diversity of opinion within the alliance. Nonetheless, it is critically important that the United States and its European partners stand united on the basics of our common efforts to protect our mutual security.

Therefore, it is not at all surprising that the Soviets are now seeking, as they have in the past in regard to other issues, to incite and exploit differences within the West as a means of undercutting alliance efforts to strengthen our defence and deterrence forces. Their propaganda tools are familiar ones, involving misrepresentation, threats, and now a call for a moratorium that would freeze the imbalance in Europe.

Though their current propaganda campaign contains little that is new, I can't help but be struck by how disingenious it is for the Soviet Union – which possesses the world's only operational anti-ballistic missile system, which has taken actions counter to the letter and spirit of the ABM treaty – now to express such public criticism of the idea that the United States might also engage in its own research into the feasibility of strategic defence.

Our allies know the truth. We have consulted closely with them on the nature and purposes of SDI. They know that it is a research programme designed to provide the technical basis that would allow a future President to decide whether to develop advanced systems to defend against ballistic missiles. They also know that limits on research activity are neither feasible nor verifiable.

The goal of SDI research is to find non-nuclear technologies which, if deployed, would strengthen stability and enhance our mutual security. Our research will be conducted in conformity with all treaties to which the US is a party, including the ABM treaty.

Ready to negotiate as long as necessary

For all these reasons, Nato Governments support SDI research and have stated their support on many occasions, mostly recently at the March meeting of Nato's nuclear planning group.

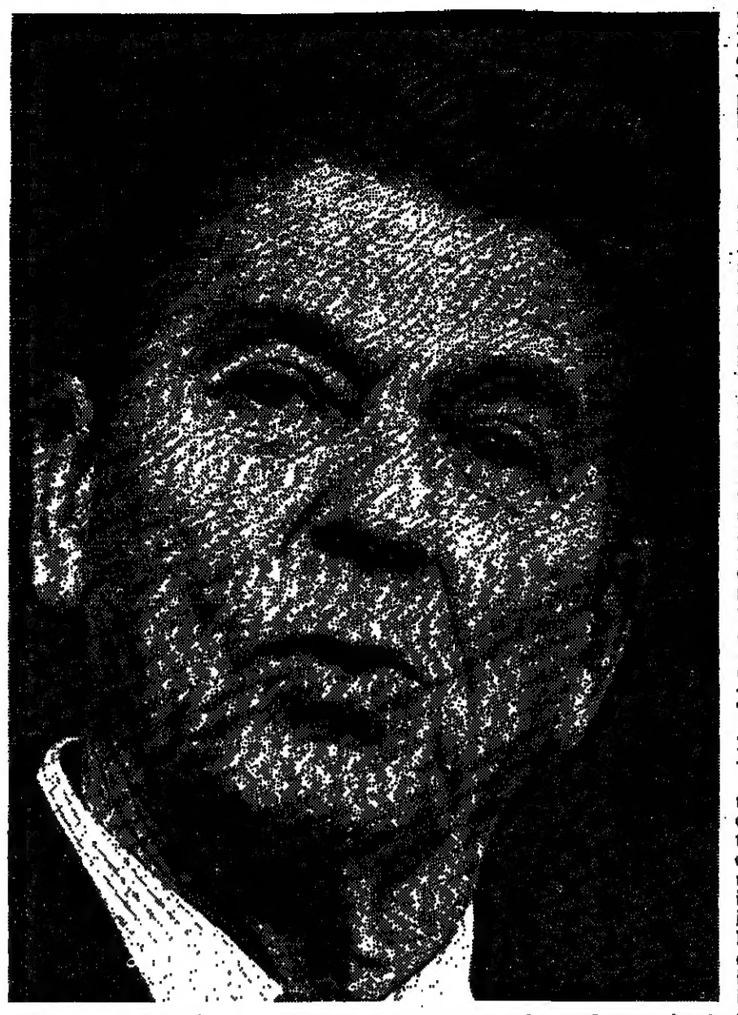
Mr President, you have said it may take longer than your four-year-term to achieve a major nuclear arms reduction agreement with the Soviet Union. If this is so, what do you think can be achieved by 1988?

We are prepared to negotiate constructively with the Soviet Union with the goal of radically reducing nuclear arms, and ultimately eliminating nuclear weapons entirely. If the Soviets approach the negotiations in the same serious fashion, it should be possible to reach agreement on the differences between us and the Soviets.

The US will not make unilateral concessions in an effort to come quickly to agreement, nor will we be subject to artificial deadlines before which agreement must be reached. We want to negotiate good agreements which enhance the security of the United States and our allies. We are prepared to negotiate as long as necessary to achieve this.

You have expressed your determination to make the Sandinista Government of Nicaragua change its ways. How far are you prepared to go to achieve this objective?

We believe that our interests and those of Central America would best be served by the conclusion of a workable, comprehensive and fully verifiable regional agreement based solidly on the 21 objectives of the Contadora process. We continue to support that process strongly through our diplomacy.



I want to emphasize that, consistent with the 21 goals of the Contadora process, the US continues to seek Nicaragua's implementation of its commitment to democracy made to the Organization of American States. We also seek an end to Nicaragua's aggression against its neighbours. We think they should remove the thousands of Soviet bloc/Cuban, PLO, Libyan and other military and security personnel, and return the Nicaraguan military to a level of parity with their neighbours.

Realistically, we recognize that there must be incentives to get the Sandinistas to change their behaviour. If incentives are taken away, they will have no reason to compromise, and there will be no hope of a negotiated settlement.

That is why I proposed last week, as a step toward peace in the Western hemisphere, that the Sandinistas make peace with their own people by means of negotiations which result in genuine democratic elections.

The democratic opposition has proposed a peace initiative to the Communists which is completely fair. It includes mediation by the Catholic bishops of Nicaragua, who have accepted the proposal. It agrees to recognize the current regime pending a free election. It asks for guarantees of free speech, and the political opportunity for the opposition to state its case there. A key feature of the peace plan is a ceasefire by both sides and a lifting of the state of emergency.

This proposal is fully consistent with the objectives of the Contadora process. It has the approval of President Betancur of Colombia, President Duarte of El Salvador, and other neighbours of Nicaragua. Why won't the Sandinistas accept this proposal from their own people? We hope they will, for the sake of peace in their own country and in Central America as a whole.

The strong dollar has been causing *chaos in European currency markets*, forcing governments to raise interest rates. A sharp fall in its value could also be very damaging. Given the interrelationship between the US and other Western economies, why doesn't the US actively intervene with other governments to achieve greater currency stability?

The strength of the US dollar against European currencies over the past four years has primarily reflected the strong US economic performance and prospects, particularly relative to the economic performance and prospects elsewhere in the world. The dramatic improvement in US growth, employment, productivity and profitability, coupled with a lower inflation rate, has stimulated demand for dollars relative to demand for other key currencies. Additionally, foreign confidence in the US economy as a "safe haven" has contributed to the demand for dollars.

Tackle each currency issue on merits

Experience indicates that government intervention in exchange markets can have only a very limited and temporary impact in the absence of changes in the underlying fundamentals. We remain prepared to intervene to counter disorderly markets in instances where we believe it would be helpful. But policies that promote a convergence of economic performance, including those designed to increase incentives for stronger non-inflationary growth, are the key to achieving greater exchange rate stability.

You have stated that a reduction of the Federal budget deficit is a top priority, but many economists and businessmen on both sides of the *Atlantic are sceptical that you will be* able to achieve significant cuts. What is your strategy, given the opposition your proposals are already facing in the congress?

Congress and the Administration have a common goal. We want to reduce the budget deficit. The Administration and the Senate Republican leadership have reached agreement on a budget proposal for fiscal year 1986 which restrains both civilian and military expenditure – without endangering our military preparedness – while cutting some $50 billion from our budget deficit. Our budget proposal would utilize expenditure restraint and expanding revenues from economic growth to yield a declining trend of deficits, both in absolute terms and as a share of GNP, in the coming fiscal years.

In some quarters in Congress there is inclination to spare domestic spending from reductions we have proposed and instead just cut defence expenditures, or raise taxes, or both. The Administration is certainly willing to consider proposals from Congress, but I will not agree to defence spending cuts that weaken our national security or to tax increases. Despite our differences with some members of Congress, I believe that our strong shared determination to reduce the deficit will prevail, that we will get the cuts in spending our economy requires, and that later in the year, we can secure passage of an historic reform and simplification of our tax code that will strengthen incentives for vigorous and sustained economic growth.

You have proposed a new round of Gatt negotiations. In what areas will the US be putting proposals and would the US agree to linking international currency and dollar issues to these talks?

We have ideas as to what subjects might be covered, and we are confident that the other participants have their own ideas as to priority areas for the negotiations. We are anxious to proceed to the preparatory phase of the negotiations in the Gatt and to draw up an agenda for the new round, which we believe should be launched formally by early next year. We do not *believe it is right to link progress on* these negotiations with international monetary questions. Issues in each should be addressed on their merits when they arise.

Do you think recent developments in the Middle East, notably the accord between King Husain of Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization, can lead to an early revival of your September 1982 Middle East peace initiative?

When I made my proposals in September 1982, my goal was to stimulate efforts to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East. That goal remains the same today. My initiative outlined the positions we will support when negotiations resume. I believe that direct negotiations between the parties is the best way to achieve settlement. But the challenge at the moment is to get those negotiations under way.

The Husain-Arafat accord and the ideas put forward by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and others in the region are positive developments. I have decided to send Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy to the area to explore the possibilities raised by these proposals and to see how the peace process can be moved forward.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen attends the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, 10.30.

Princess Anne attends the London Harness Horse Parade Society's centenary dinner at Young and Co.'s Ram Brewery, Wandsworth, SW18, 7.

Exhibitions in progress

Travels without a Donkey: two artists who followed Robert Louis Stevenson's route inspired by his book *Travels with a Donkey*: MacRobert Arts Centre, Stirling University; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 21).

Canadian Holography Now: Artspace Galley, 21 Castle St, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (ends April 24).

Giaconetti – Paris: paintings of scenes in Paris; Museum and Art Gallery, 78 George St, Perth; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends April 27).

Handel's *Messiah* – a history of the Oratorio; *National Library of* Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5, Sat 9.30 to 1 (ends May 10).

Mario Giacomelli: a retrospective photographer, poet, and painter; Stills Gallery, 105 High St, Edinburgh; Tues to Sat 12.30 to 6 (ends April 20).

Have a Seat: celebrates the existence of the humble chair; James Dun's House, Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends April 27).

Recent ceramics by Madeleine Battersby: Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton: Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, closed *Wed and Sun (ends April 20).*

Watercolours from the Laing Art Gallery: Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Southampton; Tues to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4, Sun 2 to 5 (ends April 28).

Last chance to see

The Book Table project: Bill Gribb fashion designer and Alexander Moffat – portraint drawings: National Portrait Gallery, Queen St, Edinburgh: 10 to 5.

Music

Concert by the Demon Barbers: Music School, St. Michael's College, Tenbury, 8.

Concert by the Hampshire Youth Brass Ensemble, Winchester Cathedral, 7.30.

Concert by the South Down Choral Society and Redeemer Youth Orchestra, Newry Cathedral, 8.

Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Guildhall, Southampton, 8.

Concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta, Guildhall, Plymouth, 7.30.

General

Book Fair; Wagner Hall, Regency Rd, Brighton, 10 to 5.

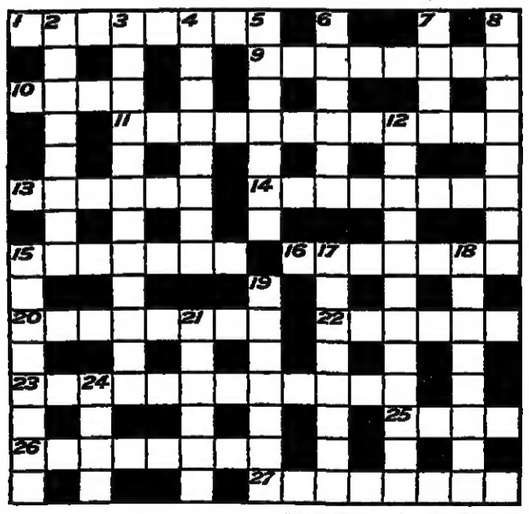
Book Fair; Haydock Park Racecourse, Haydock, Merseyside, 2 to 8, tomorrow 10 to 5.

Anniversaries

Edward Bird, painter, was born at Wolverhampton, 1772.

Deaths: William Kent, architect, designer and landscape gardener, London, 1748; Charles Burney, organist and music historian, London, 1814; Feodor Chaliapin, bass singer, Paris, 1938; Franklin D Roosevelt, 32nd President of USA 1933-45, Warm Springs Georgia, 1945; Sir Archibald McIndoe, plastic surgeon, London, 1960; Antoine Pevsner, sculptor and painter, Paris, 1962.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,709



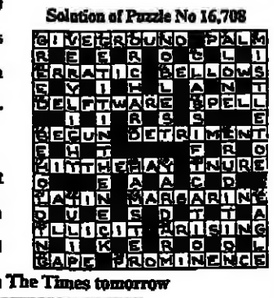
ACROSS

1 Employed by shoe-makers, they're not drunk (8).
9 Composition for a choir or a few instrumentalists? Nothing in it (8).
10 Little consideration for Solomon's work (4).
11 Where many a doctor orders the early rest (6,6).
13 A point is made by one with a jackal's head (6).
14 Perform school task – its object physical training? (8).
15 Caretaker from year's beginning to year's end (7).
16 Like the latest from Mrs Partlet, or from mice and men? (3-4).
20 Bank owner, dissolute fellow, an old heretic (8).
22 Minnows overshadowed by this mollusc? (6).
23 The Spider – or Roundabout (if the swings are unprofitable) (5-7).
25 You may rest here, if it belongs to God (4).
26 Voice that is lacking in an appointment of a lawyer (8).
27 Old gunner's match-holder – fifty available for sale (8).

DOWN

2 I manage to go mad about nothing but myself with this (8).
3 Thirty score in Tennysonian numbers (5,7).
4 A number seen on mural painting out of doors (8).
5 Thus the drunken breed is cured (7).
6 Story about a vessel, the Dog-star (6).
7 We hear Nicholas Nye's calling from the hillside (4).
8 Stock controller uses pointed stick going round the river (8).
12 Cart twice tangled with line is hard to control (12).
15 A prophet's tale of woe (8).
17 Made up to insane Baltic statesman (8).
18 Under like pressure one society consumes Italian port (8).
19 He doesn't believe in replace*ment of field* (7).
21 Harness for trek to see Tyrolean flower outside health resort (6).
24 Jack said to upset Welsh John here in church (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,708



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 12

Portfolio

Portfolio – how to play

Monday–Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.

Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.

If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim

Telephone The Times Portfolio claims line 0254-53272 between 10.00 am and 3.30 pm, on the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio Dividend. No claims can be accepted outside these hours.

You must have your card with you when you telephone.

If you are unable to telephone someone else can claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between the stipulated times.

No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.

The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.

● Some Times Portfolio cards include minor misprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not invalidated.

● The wording of Rules 2 and 3 has been expanded from earlier versions for clarification purposes. The Game itself is not affected and will continue to be played in exactly the same way as before.

Food prices

Although the weather has not been kind to fishermen, the range of fish caught is much better than in recent weeks. The best value is probably small whole plaice at 68-74p a lb. A range of prices for London and the South-east are: Mackerel 62-72p a lb, plaice fillets £2.00-£2.20; skate wings, cod fillets and huss £1.60-£1.80; grey mullet £1.10-£1.20; lemon sole £1.40-£1.60; cod cutlets £1.45-£1.65; coley fillets 70-85p. Shellfish prices: Prawns with shells £1.80-£2.00, peeled prawns £3.20; scallops 40-68p; oysters (good) 48-58 each, according to size; clams 20-25p each; winkles 68p a pint.

Some good buys from supermarkets this week are: Sainsbury New Zealand whole leg of lamb down 26p to £1.28 a lb, braising steak £1.68 a lb; Tesco New Zealand lamb shoulder 69p, minced beef 89p and smoked frozen haddock fillets £2.29 for an 800 gram pack; Bejam 5-pound pack chicken portions £3.29, and Cod fillets £1.64 an 800 gram pack; Fine Fare beef sirloin £2.60 a lb and boneless pork shoulder 98p; Safeway pork fillet £2.49 a lb and boneless pork leg £1.69; British Home Stores ramp steak down 66 pence a lb to £2.59 and pork picnic joints £1.19 a lb.

Most spring vegetables are in short supply and consequently rather expensive. Greens 30-40p a lb and spring cabbage 48-65p. Cauliflower is cheaper this weekend. Egyptian new potatoes are good value at 15-18p a lb. Spanish and Guernsey asparagus £1.00-£1.80 a lb is worth trying. Round English and Dutch lettuce is good value at 22-30p each. Oranges, lemons and grapefruit are among the best value and quality. English, Dutch and Belgian Conference pears at 30-40p a lb

The pound

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	1.91	1.82
Austria Sch	27.80	26.40
Belgium Fr	79.80	76.20
Canada $	1.75	1.67
Denmark Kr	14.22	13.52
Finland Mkk	8.38	7.98
France Fr	12.05	11.50
Germany DM	3.96	3.78
Greece Dr	178.00	168.00
Hong Kong $	10.00	9.40
Ireland Pt	1.27	1.21
Italy Lira	2,525.00	2,405.00
Japan Yen	335.00	310.00
Netherlands Gld	4.47	4.25
Norway Kr	11.45	10.90
Portugal Esc	215.00	205.00
South Africa Rd	2.80	2.40
Spain Pta	217.00	208.00
Sweden Kr	11.55	11.05
Switzerland Fr	3.34	3.18
USA $	1.39	1.34
Yugoslavia Dnr	310.00	290.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Retail Price Index: 362.7.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 2.9 at 857.4.

Top films

The top box-office films in London:

1 (2) A Passage to India
2 (1) 2010
3 (5) Beverly Hills Cop
4 (6) Dance With A Stranger
5 (–) Micki & Maude
6 (4) The Killing Fields
7 (8) Amadeus
8 (9) Carmen
9 (7) *Not Quite Jerusalem*
10 (–) The Never Ending Story

The top films in the provinces:

1 A Passage to India
2 The Witch
3 Morons from Outer Space
4 2010
5 Ghostbusters

Compiled by *Screen International*

Top video rentals

1 (1) Police Academy.
2 (2) Star Trek II: The Search for Spock.
3 (6) The Philadelphia Experiment.
4 (4) Codename: Wildgeese.
5 (10) Rolling Thunder.
6 (3) Trading Places.
7 (5) Cannonball Run II.
8 (16) The Bounty.
9 (9) The Ice Pirates.
10 (7) Firestarter.

Supplied by *Video Business*.

Roads

Wales and West: A38: Lane restrictions northbound at Marsh Mills viaduct between Plymouth and Exeter; also between South Brent and Morley Head in various places. A46: Lane closures in both directions between Raglan and Abergavenny, Gwent. A31: Roadworks between Ringwood and Wimborne at Trickets Cross with a diversion likely to cause delays, Dorset.

The North: M6: Resurfacing on southbound carriageway between junction 41 (Wigton) and junction 44 (N of Carlisle) contraflow in the northbound. A636: Major resurfacing work in Hastington, E of Crowle; temporary traffic lights in use; delays. A1: Roadworks between the Broomhouse roundabout and Charlton Mires, Northumberland.

Scotland: A92: Contraflow 8 miles N of Stonehaven. A85: Roadworks at various locations between Invergowrie and the west side of Dundee; traffic control. A7: New bridge construction 8 miles S of Hawick; single line traffic with temporary lights. (24 hrs).

Information supplied by the AA

The papers

The Daily Express says that the vote not to take industrial action by members of the Civil and Public Services Association has been "a triumph" for the Government's trade union legislation. It adds: "Not because the result was a rejection of a strike call, but simply because it allowed the rank and file to dictate policy in their own union."

The Sun, also commenting of the Civil and Public Services Association's ballot, says: "The margin was narrow. Even so, it demonstrates once more, that when ordinary trade unionists are allowed to express their views they't almost always come down on the side of common sense".

Snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andorra-Soldeu	30	120	fair	varied	closed	cloud	5
Good end of season skiing							
Isola 2000	130	170	fair	varied	good	sun	–2
Lower south facing slopes icy							
St Anton	20	250	good	varied	fair	fine	12
Excellent skiing available							
Tignes	105	140	good	heavy	fair	fine	10
Good skiing still available							
Zermatt	10	150	good	good	closed	fine	3
Excellent skiing above 2000m							

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain representatives, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. Other snow reports page 22.

Weather

A ridge of high pressure will cross the British Isles ahead of further troughs of low pressure.

6am to midnight

London, central S, E, NW, central N, NE England, Midlands, Channel Islands, Lake District: Sunny intervals and scattered showers some heavy but dying out, further rain later; wind NW becoming SW moderate or fresh; max temp 12C (54F).

SE England, East Anglia: Rain in E dying out, showers and sunny intervals developing, further rain late in day; wind NW becoming SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 12C (54F).

SW England, Wales, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Dry at first; rain spreading from W during the afternoon, heavy in places; wind NW becoming SW fresh or strong with gales in exposed places; max temp 11C (52F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Bright intervals and *scattered showers dying out, rain heavy* at times later, sleet over high ground; wind SW becoming SE light increasing fresh or strong; max temp 10C (50F).

Shetland: Rain dying out, bright intervals developing but also a few showers; wind SW light becoming S to SE fresh or strong; max temp 6C (43F).

Northern Ireland: Rain heavy at times, becoming clearer later with showers; wind W becoming SW fresh or strong; max temp 9C (48F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Changeable and windy at times; rather cold.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NW backing SW to W, strong to gale, occasionally severe gale; showers; visibility good; sea very rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW strong to gale occasionally severe gale; occasional rain; visibility moderate or good; sea very rough.

Sun rises: 6.12 am — Sun sets: 7.52 pm
Moon rises: 3.50 am — Moon sets: 10.59 pm
Last quarter 5.41 am.

Lighting-up time

London 8.22 pm to 5.40 am
Bristol 8.32 pm to 5.49 am
Edinburgh 8.43 pm to 5.43 am
Manchester 8.34 pm to 5.44 am
Penzance 8.41 pm to 6.04 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; h, hail.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	r	6	43	Guernsey	r	8	46
Birmingham	h	4	39	Inverness	f	9	48
Blackpool	r	5	41	Jersey	f	10	50
Bristol	r	8	46	London	r	9	48
Cardiff	r	7	45	Manchester	r	5	41
Edinburgh	r	6	43	Newcastle	r	6	43
Glasgow	r	6	43	Ronaldsway	c	6	43

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 7C (45F). Humidity: 6 pm, 75 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.2in. Sun: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.2hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 992.4 millibars and rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

Highest and lowest

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Heathrow, Jersey, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Lerwick,5C (41F); highest rainfall: Keswick, 2.13in; highest sunshine: Isles of Scilly, 6.2hr.

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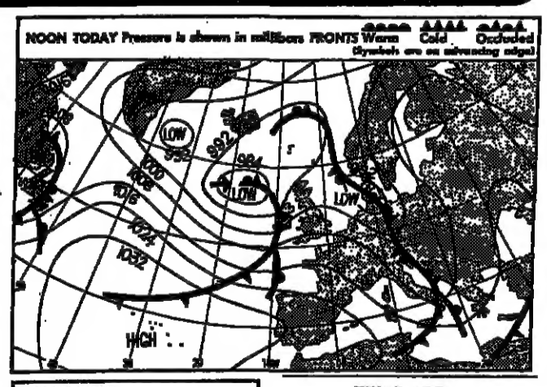

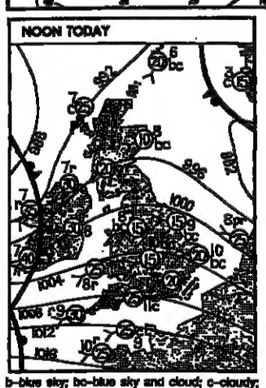

b–blue sky; bc–blue sky and cloud; c–cloudy; o–overcast; f–fog; d–drizzle; h–hail; m–mist; r–rain; s–snow; th–thunderstorm; p–showers. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) circled. temperatures centigrade.

High tides

TODAY

	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.39	5.3	8.0	5.9
Aberdeen	7.21	3.3	8.33	3.2
Avonmouth	12.34	10.4	1.04	9.8
Belfast	4.57	3.0	5.49	2.9
Cardiff	12.19	9.8	12.49	9.2
Devonport	11.39	4.2		
Dover	4.52	5.6	5.23	5.3
Falmouth	11.09	4.0	11.37	4.2
Glasgow	5.23	4.4	6.49	4.1
Harwich	5.35	3.5	6.02	3.3
Holyhead	4.11	4.6	5.13	4.3
Hull			12.16	6.1
Ilfracombe	11.57	6.9		
Leith	8.45	4.5	9.35	4.5
Liverpool	4.57	7.6	5.42	7.3
Lowestoft	3.33	2.2	3.36	2.0
Margate	5.45	4.2	6.06	3.9
Milford Haven			12.19	5.2
Newquay	11.17	5.4	11.55	5.4
Oban	11.40	2.8		
Penzance	10.54	4.2	11.23	4.4
Portland			12.25	1.2
Portsmouth	5.09	4.0	5.08	3.8
Shoreham	4.42	5.1	5.33	4.9
Southampton	4.50	3.8	5.48	3.7
Swansea			12.16	7.3
Tees	9.49	4.2	10.43	4.2
Walton-on-Naze	5.26	3.7	5.46	3.4

Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

Around Britain

	Sun hr	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
EAST COAST					
Scarboro	–	.23	6	43	Rain
Bridlington	–	.52	7	45	Rain
Cromer	–	.24	8	46	Rain
Lowestoft	0.3	.28	8	46	Rain
Clacton	0.7	.25	9	48	Rain
Margate					
SOUTH COAST					
Folkestone	1.3	.63	9	48	Rain
Hastings	1.4	.34	9	48	Rain
Eastbourne	1.0	.39	9	48	Rain
Brighton	–	.34	8	46	Rain
Worthing	1.2	.35	10	50	Rain
Littlehmptn	0.9	.44	10	50	Rain
Bognor R	1.1	.61	10	50	Rain
Southsea	0.9	.42	10	50	Rain
Sandown	0.4	.54	10	50	Rain
Shanklin					
Bournemth	1.5	.54	11	52	Rain
Poole	1.9	.45	11	52	Showers
Swanage	1.8	.40	10	50	Showers
Weymouth	2.1	.37	10	50	Cloudy
Exmouth	3.3	.33	10	50	Hail pm
Teignmouth	4.7	.26	11	52	Bright

WEST COAST	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Ilfracombe	3.5	.50	9	48	Bright pm
Tenby	6.7	–	10	50	Sunny
Colwyn Bay	–	.81	9	48	Rain am
Southport	–	.33	7	45	Rain am
Morecambe	–	.92	8	46	Rain
Douglas	3.6	.78	8	46	Bright pm
ENGLAND AND WALES					
London (Ctrl)	0.2	.20	10	50	Rain
B'ham (Airpt)	0.5	.57	9	48	Hail pm
Bristol (Ctrl)	1.1	.31	9	48	Showers pm
Cardiff (Ctrl)	2.1	.39	9	48	Rain am
Anglesey	2.7	1.07	8	46	Rain am
B'pool (Airpt)	0.3	.81	8	46	Showers pm
Manchester	–	.67	7	45	Rain
Nottingham	–	.55	8	46	Rain
N'cstl-n-Tyne	–	.44	6	43	Rain am
Carlisle	–	.76	8	46	Rain
SCOTLAND					
Eskdalemuir	–	.91	6	43	Sleet am
Prestwick	2.2	.40	9	48	Rain am
Glasgow	1.5	.17	10	50	Rain am
Tiree	6.3	.31	10	50	Showers am
Stornoway	6.4	.35	9	48	Showers

Abroad

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; t, thunder.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	15	59	Cologne	c	10	50	Majorca	s	20	68	Rome	s	17	63
Akrotiri	s	20	68	Copenhgn	sn	1	34	Malaga*	s	20	68	Salzburg	f	14	57
Alexandria	s	27	81	Corfu	s	23	73	Malta	s	23	73	Sao Paulo			
Algiers	s	20	68	Dublin	r	4	39	Melbourne	s	30	86	S Francisco*	s	14	57
Amsterdam	c	9	48	Dubrovnik	s	19	66	Mexico C*	f	19	66	Santiago*	s	21	70
Athens	s	27	81	Faro	s	20	68	Miami*	s	24	75	Seoul	c	14	57
Bahrain	s	26	79	Florence	c	17	63	Milan	f	15	59	Singapore	f	31	88
Barbados				Frankfurt	r	11	52	Montreal*	f	2	36	Stockholm	s	7	45
Barcelona	s	16	61	Funchal	f	17	63	Moscow	f	1	34	Strasbourg	c	11	52
Beirut	s	21	70	Geneva	f	12	54	Munich	f	11	52	Sydney	s	23	73
Belgrade	f	15	59	Gibraltar	s	18	64	Nairobi	c	24	75	Tangier	s	19	66
Berlin	f	7	45	Helsinki	s	4	39	Naples	c	16	61	Tel Aviv	s	25	77
Bermuda*	s	17	63	Hong Kong	c	23	73	New Delhi	s	30	86	Tenerife	c	19	66
Biarritz	r	11	52	Innsbruck	s	13	55	New York*	s	6	43	Tokyo	r	18	64
Boulogne	r	7	45	Istanbul	s	24	75	Nice	s	20	68	Toronto*	f	4	39
Bordeaux	r	8	46	Jiddah	s	34	93	Oslo	s	2	36	Tunis	f	19	66
Brussels	c	9	48	Jo'burg*	s	19	66	Paris	r	8	46	Valencia	s	22	72
Budapest	c	15	59	Karachi*	s	33	91	Peking	s	19	66	Vancouver*	f	12	54
Buen Aires*	s	22	72	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Perth*	c	21	70	Venice	f	14	57
Cairo	s	32	90	Lisbon	s	16	61	Prague	f	12	54	Vienna	s	14	57
Cape Tn.	s	26	79	Locarno	s	16	61	Reykjavik	c	6	43	Warsaw	c	5	41
C'blanca	c	17	63	L Angeles*	f	21	70	Rhodes	s	19	66	Washington*	s	8	46
Chicago*	c	7	45	Luxembg	c	8	46	Riyadh	s	31	88	Wellington*	c	17	63
Ch'church*	s	21	70	Madrid	s	16	61	Rio de Jan	s	28	82	Zurich	f	10	50

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

هكذا من الأصل